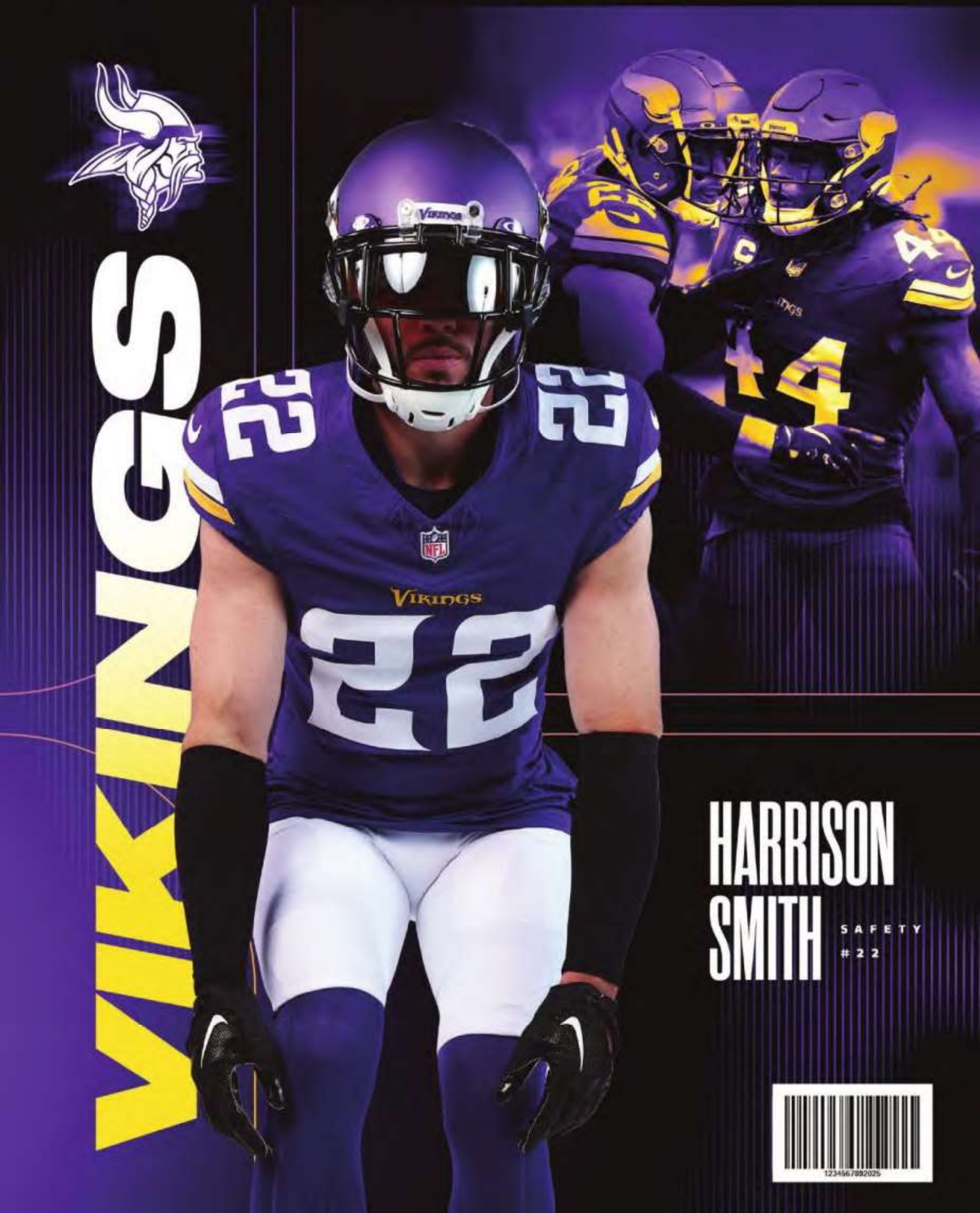
2025 MINNESOTA VIKINGS YEARBOOK



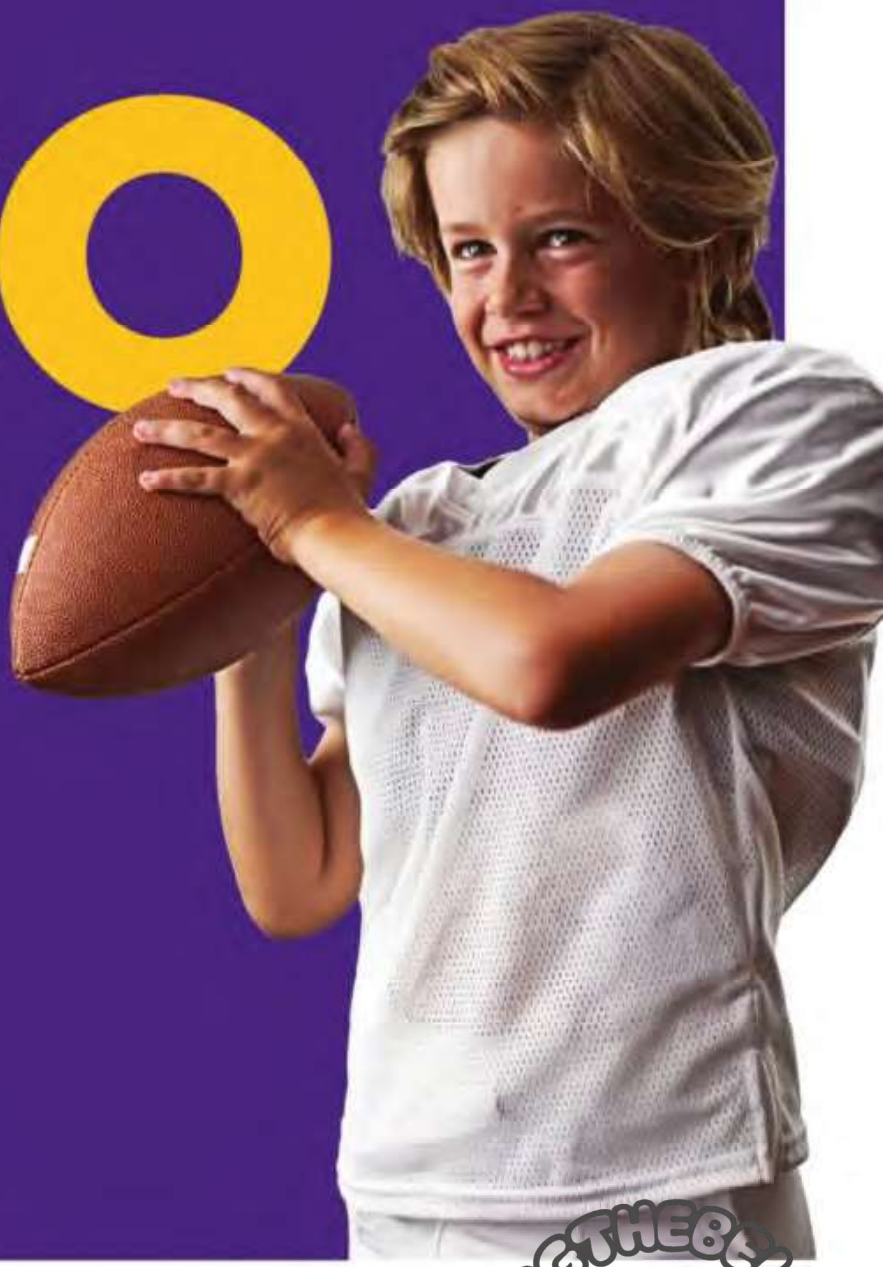
HARRISON SMITH

SAFETY
#22

1234567892025

TWIN CITIES ORTHOPEDICS

Ready. Set. TCO



More urgent care ready to go.

Ready with more doctors. Set with more orthopedic urgent care locations open 8 — 8 daily. Go for more of what you need to keep your body moving. No referral or appointment necessary. **TCOmn.com**

OFFICIAL SPORTS MEDICINE PROVIDER

RING THE BELL on Archive.org

View urgent care locations and wait times

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2025 YEARBOOK

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

SPECIAL THANKS TO VIKINGS PUBLIC RELATIONS

PUBLISHED BY

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS PUBLICATIONS
519 8th Ave., 10th Floor
New York, NY 10018
Tel: 212.697.1460 • Fax: 646.753.9480
www.pspsports.com

facebook.com/pspsports *x.com/psp_sports*

Executive V.P. Operations: Jeff Botwinick
Executive V.P. Business Development: Martin Lewis
Executive V.P. Sales: Mitch Gibbs
Executive V.P. Team Relations: Dave Gerschwer
Executive V.P.: Julie Wanjon
Publishing Director: Jaime Ziegler
Production Manager: Allison Montefusco
Editorial Director: Ming Wong
Assistant Editor: Matthew Rushforth
Art Director: Lynda DiTuri

© **2025 MINNESOTA VIKINGS**. All rights reserved.
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission
from the MINNESOTA VIKINGS is expressly prohibited.

RIPSTHEBELLY on Archive.org

4 Front Office
26 Schedule Takeaways
30 GM Kwesi Adofo-Mensah
34 Head Coach Kevin O'Connell
38 Coaching Staff
60 Health & Performance Staff
62 NFLPA Report Cards
64 Hitting Another Level: Harrison Smith Returns
68 Canton Bound: Jared Allen
72 Free Agency Recap
82 2025 NFL Draft
88 2025 Roster
97 Player Profiles
192 Ring of Honor
194 In Memoriam: Jim Marshall
200 Vikings Classic Uniforms
201 Winter Warrior Uniforms
202 Voice of the Fan
204 Cheerleaders
206 Gjallarhorn
207 SKOL Line
208 U.S. Bank Stadium
210 High School & Youth Football
211 Girls Flag Football
212 Women's Flag Football
214 Viktor the Viking
216 Community Impact

RINGTHEBELL
on
Archive.org

It's a win-win.

The GLE. Available in gas and plug-in hybrid.

Learn more at MBUSA.com/GLE

2025 GLE 580 4MATIC® SUV shown in MANUFAKTUR Diamond White metallic paint and 2025 GLE 450e 4MATIC® SUV shown in MANUFAKTUR Alpine Grey paint with optional equipment.

©2025 Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

For more information, call 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES, or visit MBUSA.com.

ZYGI WILF

OWNER/CHAIRMAN

Zygi Wilf enters his 21st season as Owner/Chairman of the Minnesota Vikings in 2025 and has been instrumental in transforming the organization since the Wilf family purchased the club in 2005. During that time, Wilf and his brother Mark have focused on creating a world-class organization that consistently competes for championships, provides the best fan experience in the NFL, has a positive impact on the community and grows the game of football.

Two of the biggest organizational achievements – opening U.S. Bank Stadium in 2016 and hosting Super Bowl LII in 2018 – have come under the Wilfs' leadership. As the largest construction project in state history, the new stadium employed nearly 8,000 construction workers and has had a significant economic impact on the region. Wilf served as Honorary Co-Chair of the Minnesota Super Bowl Bid Committee and was successful in bringing Super Bowl LII to Minnesota in 2018. The facility is capable of hosting hundreds of community, national and international events each year and has also been the home of the 2019 NCAA Men's Final Four and multiple ESPN X Games.

Wilf and his brother Mark led the development of the Vikings new headquarters, Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center, which opened in March 2018 in Eagan. As the day-to-day and training camp home of the team, TCO Performance Center also serves as the centerpiece of Viking Lakes, a 200-acre, mixed-use development that will ultimately encompass 3 million square feet of corporate office, medical, retail, entertainment and multi-family housing. The growing campus has added the national headquarters of USA Curling, the northern office of the United States Tennis Association and the Omni Viking Lakes Hotel to go alongside the Minnesota Vikings Museum and Vikings Locker Room team store, as well as Twin Cities Orthopedics' sports medicine center and medical office building.

Philanthropy has long been a key point of emphasis for the Wilfs and was displayed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, during which the Wilf Family Foundations and the Vikings gave more than $5 million in donations and commitments to support health care workers, the elderly, food banks, social service organizations and Jewish causes in Minnesota, New York, New Jersey and Israel.

Zygi and Mark have been actively engaged with the team's player-led Social Justice Committee. Since 2018, the Wilf family and the Vikings have donated more than $6.5 million to social justice causes throughout the United States, including $5 million in June 2020. The players determined the three areas of focus with the expansion or launch of multiple initiatives in: 1) voter education and registration; 2) educational curriculum on racism and Black history; and 3) law enforcement and criminal justice reform.

Throughout their heavy involvement in business and civic endeavors, the Wilfs have been particularly dedicated to children's health issues. In February 2015, Zygi and Mark donated $5 million to the M Health Fairview University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital to create the Wilf Family Center. Designed to be the intellectual center of children's health care, the center has an impact extending far beyond the region's borders. In 2017, under the Wilfs' leadership, the Vikings launched the Minnesota Vikings Foundation with the mission of advancing the well-being of youth through engaging health and education initiatives. In 2019, the Foundation unveiled Vikings Table, a food truck that provides free meals to underserved children in Minneapolis-St. Paul and surrounding communities.

The journey for Wilf from avid New York Giants fan sitting in the bleachers of Yankee Stadium in the 1960s to taking over the leadership of one of the NFL's proudest franchises has been marked by bold and well-founded business decisions, commitment to family and employees, and appreciation for NFL history. Wilf was recognized in 2013 with the Fritz Pollard Alliance's Tank Younger Award in honor of his commitment to hiring and promoting minority candidates on the football and business side of the Vikings franchise. In spring 2019, the Wilf Family Foundations made a $1 million donation to the Pro Football Hall of Fame to help the development of a Founders Exhibit that shines a light on the many contributions of founders and owners of NFL franchises.

Along with his ownership of the Vikings, Wilf is a principal of Garden Homes, a nationwide leader in retail, commercial and private residential development. He was part-owner of the MLS's Nashville SC franchise and a founder of WISE (Wilf Innovative Sports & Entertainment) Ventures, an investment fund based in Manhattan focused on early and growth stage investment opportunities in sports entertainment and real estate. In 2021, Wilf became the lead investor and governor for Orlando City SC and the Orlando Pride.

Wilf, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Wilf, emigrated with his parents from Europe to the United States in the early 1950s and settled in New Jersey. He attended nearby Fairleigh Dickinson University, earning a bachelor's degree in economics and later graduated from New York Law School in Manhattan. Wilf and his wife Audrey have four children.

RINGTHEBELL.TV on Archive.org

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

WIN A Tournament Of Roses Experience!

from GOBOWLING™

SCAN for your chance to WIN!

Grand Prize Trip to Pasadena, CA includes VIP Rose Parade Passes, Rose Bowl Game Tickets, Air Transportation and Hotel Accommodations for winner and a guest.

PASADENA TOURNAMENT of ROSES

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Sweepstakes is open to legal US residents of the 48 contiguous United States who are 21 yrs or older at time of entry. Void where prohibited by Federal, State or local law. For complete Official Rules visit GoBowling.com/RoseExperience for details, prize description and odds of winning.

GO BOWLING

MARK WILF

OWNER/PRESIDENT

Entering his 21st season of ownership in 2025, Minnesota Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf has led a transformation of the entire organization and has dedicated his focus to four primary areas: building a team that consistently competes for championships, providing the best-in-class fan experience, positively impacting the Minneapolis-St. Paul community and growing the game of football.

Mark, along with his brother Zygi, oversees the management and strategic planning of every department within the Vikings. He led two of the most significant initiatives in the team's history with the completion of U.S. Bank Stadium and the successful bid to bring Super Bowl LII to Minnesota, creating a lasting impact on the community and the state. The multi-use U.S. Bank Stadium opened in July 2016 and is considered to be in the upper echelon of stadiums throughout the world, having won several awards for its construction and design, operations and sustainability initiatives. The stadium also provides one of the best fan experiences in all of sports and entertainment. As the largest construction project in state history, U.S. Bank Stadium created thousands of jobs with tremendous economic impact on the region and helped spur more than $1 billion in surrounding development in the east side of downtown Minneapolis. The facility is capable of hosting hundreds of community, national and international events each year and has been the home of Super Bowl LII, the 2019 NCAA Men's Final Four and multiple ESPN X Games.

Wilf also led the development of the Vikings new headquarters, Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center, which opened in March 2018 in Eagan. As the day-to-day and training camp home of the team, TCO Performance Center serves as the centerpiece of Viking Lakes, a 200-acre, mixed-use development that will ultimately encompass 3 million square feet of corporate office, medical, retail, entertainment and multi-family housing. The growing campus has added the national headquarters of USA Curling, the northern office of the United States Tennis Association and the Omni Viking Lakes Hotel to go alongside the Minnesota Vikings Museum and Vikings Locker Room team store, as well as Twin Cities Orthopedics' sports medicine center and medical office building.

Philanthropy has been ingrained in the Wilf family for generations. In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wilf Family Foundations and the Vikings gave over $5 million in donations and commitments to support health care workers, the elderly, food banks, social service organizations and Jewish causes in Minnesota, New York, New Jersey and Israel. Wilf embraces his role as a steward of the franchise and understands the Vikings have been a valuable part of the fabric of life in the region since 1961. Since taking ownership of the team, Mark, Zygi and the Wilf Family Foundations have provided significant and impactful grants and donations to numerous charitable causes throughout Minnesota and encourage every player on the roster to take part in community service events. Since 2018, the Wilf family and the Vikings have donated more than $6.5 million to social justice causes throughout the United States, including $5 million in June 2020. Their continued work with players is focused on three areas: 1) reducing socioeconomic disparities; 2) implementing educational curriculum on racism and Black history; and 3) advocating for law enforcement and criminal justice reform.

The Wilfs have also made children's health a priority, most notably donating $5 million to the M Health Fairview University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital and creating the Wilf Family Center. The Center is designed to be the intellectual hub of children's health care in the Midwest. In 2017, under the Wilfs' leadership, the Vikings launched the Minnesota Vikings Foundation with the mission of advancing the well-being of youth through engaging health and education initiatives. In 2019, the Foundation unveiled Vikings Table, a food truck that provides free meals to underserved children in Minneapolis-St. Paul and surrounding communities. In addition, the Wilf Family Foundations made a $1 million donation to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2019 to help create a Founders Exhibit that shines a light on the many contributions of founders and owners of NFL franchises.

Wilf previously served as Chair of the Board of Trustees for National Campaign Chairman for the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA). A longtime supporter of the Jewish community, Wilf and his family are among the largest benefactors of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial museum in Israel.

Wilf is a principal of Garden Homes, his family's real estate firm, a nationwide leader in retail, commercial and private residential development. In 2018, Wilf and his family launched WISE (Wilf Innovative Sports & Entertainment) Ventures, an investment fund based in Manhattan. In 2021, Wilf became the chairman and governor for Orlando City SC and the Orlando Pride.

Wilf earned his bachelor's degree from Princeton University, where he served as the radio voice of Princeton Tigers football and basketball. He later graduated from the New York University School of Law.

Wilf and his wife Jane, who is also heavily involved in philanthropic activities, have four children.

"IT'S THE BIGGEST AND WILDEST MISSION YET."
– ERIK DAVIS, FANDANGO
TOM CRUISE
MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE
THE FINAL RECKONING
AVAILABLE ON DIGITAL 8/19
PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND SKYDANCE PRESENT A TOM CRUISE PRODUCTION TOM CRUISE "MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - THE FINAL RECKONING" HAYLEY ATWELL VING RHAMES
SIMON PEGG HENRY CZERNY AND ANGELA BASSETT CASTING BY MANDY MARIN, CSA MUSIC BY MAX ARDU ALFIE GODFREY SCORE PRODUCED BY CECILE TOURNESAC COSTUME DESIGNER JILL TAYLOR FILM EDITOR EDDIE HAMILTON, ACE
PRODUCTION DESIGNER GARY FREEMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY FRASER TAGGART EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAVID ELLISON DANA GOLDBERG DON GRANGER CHRIS BROCK PRODUCED BY TOM CRUISE CHRISTOPHER MCQUARRIE BASED ON THE TELEVISION SERIES CREATED BY BRUCE GELLER
SKYDANCE TCFPRODUCTIONS PG-13 WRITTEN BY CHRISTOPHER MCQUARRIE & ERIK JENDRESEN DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER MCQUARRIE

LEONARD WILF

OWNER/VICE CHAIRMAN

Leonard Wilf joins cousins Zygi and Mark Wilf with the Vikings ownership group as Vice Chairman of the team for the 21st season in 2025.

Away from the Vikings, Wilf also serves as President of family-owned Garden Homes Development, a nationwide leader in retail, commercial and private residential development based in New Jersey and New York. Garden Homes celebrated its 70th year of business in 2024.

Wilf earned his bachelor's degree, Cum Laude, from Boston University. Following his undergraduate work, Wilf graduated with a law degree from Georgetown University. During his tenure at Georgetown, Wilf was editor of the Georgetown Law Review. Wilf went on to receive a Master of Law in Taxation from New York University.

In 2012, Wilf was recognized for his progressive work with charities and named to the board of the NFL Foundation.

Active with several professional and civic groups, Wilf is Vice Chairman on the Board of Trustees of NYU and the NYU Law School. Wilf is former Chairman of the American Society of Yad Vashem and a Board Member of New York Presbyterian Hospital. He is an involved member of the International Council of Shopping Centers and New York Athletic Club and was appointed a national trustee of the First Tee program. He is also active in veterans causes, including The Lincoln Awards, a concert and show which aired on the Public Broadcasting System to honor vets.

An avid sportsman, Wilf enjoys snowshoeing, golf and deep-sea fishing. His interest in NFL football was developed with his cousins from his youth.

Philanthropy has long been a key point of emphasis for the Wilfs. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wilf Family Foundations and the Vikings gave more than $5 million in donations and commitments to support health care workers, the elderly, food banks, social service organizations and Jewish causes in Minnesota, New York, New Jersey and Israel. The Wilfs have been actively engaged with the team's player-led Social Justice Committee.

In June 2020, the Wilf Family and the Vikings announced a $5 million donation to social justice causes throughout the United States, building on their previous donations of $250,000 in 2018 and 2019. The contributions from the fund will be determined in part through collaboration with the players and directed toward organizations fighting hate, racism and inequality.

In spring 2019, Wilf Family Foundations made a $1 million donation to the Pro Football Hall of Fame to help the development of a Founders Exhibit to shine a light on the many contributions of founders and owners of NFL franchises. The display covers the entire history of the NFL with a special emphasis on "Women of the NFL" and opened in 2020 in conjunction with the NFL's Centennial Celebration.

Wilf and his wife Beth have four children and are active members of the community through the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Central Park Conservancy. Wilf was appointed by President Clinton to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council in January 1997 and spearheaded the construction of the Metrowest Campus of UJA-Federation in East Hanover, New Jersey. He and his family reside in Florida.

OWNERSHIP PARTNERS

DAVID MANDELBAUM

David Mandelbaum has served as General Partner of Interstate Properties since 1968, a trustee of Vornado Realty since 1979 and Director of Alexander's, Inc. since 1995. Mandelbaum holds a law degree from Harvard. He earned his undergraduate degree at Princeton. Mandelbaum and his wife Karen are parents of four sons.

SCOTT LANDIS

Scott Landis has served as a principal of The Landis Group since 1996, successfully operating and managing the company's assets. The Landis Group, which was established in 1967 by Scott's father Alan B. Landis, has developed, owned or operated in excess of 20 million square feet of Class A real estate in the New York City metropolitan area. Landis and his wife Amy are parents of four children.

Everything ***espresso.***
Hot or cold, sweet or bold.

RINGTHEBELL
on
Archive.org

Café-quality espresso at home with the
Cuisinart® Slim Espresso Machine

espresso *cappuccino* *lattes* *iced drinks*

***A work of* Cuisinart™**

ANDREW MILLER

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Andrew Miller is entering his seventh season as Chief Operating Officer of the Minnesota Vikings after being named to the position on Aug. 12, 2019. In his role as COO, Miller works alongside Vikings ownership and executive leadership in developing the organization's vision and the strategy for all business departments.

In 2024, the Vikings ranked No. 1 overall in the NFL's "Voice of the Fan" survey that measures NFL Season Ticket Member experience and NFL game attendees' satisfaction with their game-day experience. Each club's fans are surveyed throughout the regular season, and the rankings indicate the positioning of the club's scores among all 32 teams. In 2024, the Vikings finished in the top 10 in eight of the nine primary categories. Additionally, the team saw improvement in all measured areas vs. the 2023 season, making the most significant jumps in food & beverage, security, game-day staff and arrival and departure.

Following the 2021 season, Miller played a key role as a member of the interview committee in the search for new football leadership, an extensive process that led to the hiring of General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Head Coach Kevin O'Connell. The expansive search included virtual and in-person interviews with numerous candidates and significant background research before ownership and the interview committee landed on Adofo-Mensah, who was officially announced as general manager on Jan. 26, 2022. Miller subsequently continued to work closely on the hiring process that led to the selection of O'Connell, who was named head coach on Feb. 16, 2022.

Miller helped guide the Vikings in welcoming fans back to U.S. Bank Stadium following a 2020 season in which venues were nearly or completely empty because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2021 Vikings opener marked the first time in more than 630 days the team had hosted fans for a regular-season game, and the Vikings treated the return as a grand reopening of U.S. Bank Stadium, complete with a kickoff concert and new pre-game introduction show. Throughout 2021, Miller also collaborated with the State of Minnesota to host multiple COVID-19 vaccination clinics both at TCO Performance Center and at U.S. Bank Stadium prior to Vikings games, leading to more than 25,000 Minnesotans receiving vaccinations at these clinics.

In 2020, Miller was responsible for guiding the Vikings front office through the pandemic, which included an office closure on March 13. Under his leadership, the Vikings formed an Internal COVID-19 Committee and an Incident Management Team to direct safety protocols at TCO Performance Center and U.S. Bank Stadium during the 2020 season.

Despite the challenges of working remotely, Miller kept employees focused on using the team's platform to positively impact the community via COVID-19 relief efforts and providing a best-in-class fan experience through virtual events. Miller also served as co-chair for the Minnesota Safe Sports Venues Task Force, consisting of executives from the Minnesota professional sports organizations and the University of Minnesota with a mission of bringing fans safely back into stadiums, arenas and ballparks.

Following the 2020 murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Miller led the Vikings response, engaging the team's leadership, players, diversity and inclusion council, staff, and alumni to open internal dialogue and determine the best way to use the organization's platform to influence positive change in the community. He has emphasized the Vikings commitment to eliminating racism.

Miller previously served as the Executive Vice President of Business Operations for the Toronto Blue Jays from May 2016 to September 2019. In Toronto, he was responsible for managing all business operations of the club and Rogers Centre, with a focus on understanding and enhancing the fan experience.

Prior to joining the Blue Jays, Miller spent 10 seasons with the Cleveland Guardians, with the final four as Senior Vice President of Strategy & Business Analytics. He first joined the organization in 2006, serving as Baseball Operations Assistant for the 2007 season and Assistant Director of Baseball Operations for the 2008 and 2009 seasons before being promoted to assist Mark Shapiro during his transition to team President from 2010-12.

Before entering professional sports, Miller spent nearly seven years working in the investment banking and venture capital industries and earned a J.D.-MBA from Northwestern University in 2007. He graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1997 where he also spent four years as a left-handed pitcher for the Golden Bears baseball team.

Miller serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota Business Partnership, Minneapolis Downtown Council, the Minnesota Vikings Foundation and Teach for America Twin Cities. He also participates in CEOs Against Cancer.

Miller and his wife, Jill, are the parents of Alana, Evan and Adley.

YAMAHA

Revs Your Heart

RMAX2™ 1000 LIMITED

THE ALL-NEW RMAX4™ 1000 LIMITED

MAXIMUM PERFORMANCE FOR MAXIMUM ADVENTURES

WOLVERINE® RMAX® FAMILY

Setting the industry benchmark for capability, comfort and confidence, Yamaha's new 2025 Wolverine RMAX 1000 Side-by-Side lineup offers a wide range of key enhancements designed to maximize your adventure.

RMAX2 1000 R-SPEC

RMAX4 1000 COMPACT R-SPEC

RMAX2 1000 XT-R

RMAX4 1000 COMPACT XT-R

ALL-NEW RMAX4 1000 XT-R

RMAX4 1000 COMPACT LIMITED

RMAX2 1000 SPORT

YAMAHA 10 YEAR BELT WARRANTY

REALIZE YOUR ADVENTURE

BUILT IN THE USA

YAMAHA PROVEN OFF-ROAD

Visit YamahaMotorsports.com

Professional drivers depicted on closed areas. Side-by-Side models shown are recommended for use only by operators 16 years and older with a valid driver's license. Always wear your seat belt, helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Yamaha recommends that all Side-by-Side riders take an approved training course. For Side-by-Side safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ROHVA at 1-866-267-2751. Read the Owner's Manual and the product warning labels before operation. Models shown with optional accessories. Vehicle specifications subject to change. 10-year limited V-belt warranty; see your dealer for details or visit YamahaMotorsports.com

©2025 Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. All rights reserved.

JONATHAN WILF

OWNERSHIP/EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & BUSINESS INITIATIVES

Jonathan Wilf is in his 21st season as a member of the Vikings ownership group and his 12th in this role. He helped the planning of U.S. Bank Stadium and Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center. In addition to his leadership role with the Vikings, Wilf served as president and co-owner of Version1, a multi-property esports organization that included four esports teams and was headquartered on the Viking Lakes campus. In 2023, Version1 partnered with G2 Esports, a move that gave operating rights to G2 but kept the Wilfs as investors.

STEVEN WILF

OWNERSHIP/EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF INNOVATION & STRATEGY

Steven Wilf plays a leadership role in the Wilf family's real estate and sports-and-entertainment projects in Minnesota, Florida and nationally. A partner in the Viking Lakes development, Wilf is involved daily in financing, construction and leasing operations of the campus that includes TCO Performance Center, Omni Viking Lakes, USA Curling and the northern office of the United States Tennis Association. He is a trustee of the Wilf Family Foundations.

RINGTHEBELL.TV on Archive.org

DANIEL WILF

OWNERSHIP

Daniel Wilf is an associate with the family's real estate firm Garden Homes, a nationwide leader in retail, commercial and private residential development. He is involved in all aspects of the business, including property management, financing, marketing, construction, leasing and contract negotiations. Wilf holds management roles with his family's other entities, including Orlando City SC, the Orlando Pride and MV Ventures, which oversees the development of the 200-acre Viking Lakes campus.

Your roof never has an off season.

When winter unleashes its nastiest offense of snow and ice, your roof has to stand and deliver. That's why steel roofing is engineered to shoulder heavy snow loads, shed ice buildup, and shrug off freezing temperatures without cracking or warping. With battle-tested resilience and guaranteed performance, a steel roof stands firm through the worst of winter's blitz and every season that follows.

Conquer winter's worst with the unwavering strength of steel.

U. S. Steel

RINGTHEBELL.ZZ on Archive.org

See How Steel Roofing Stands Up Against Winter

The roofing benefits described refer solely to products made with GALVALUME® steel. GALVALUME® is a registered trademark of BIEC International Inc.

HALLE WILF OSHINSKY

In addition to her leadership at Garden Homes Development, Oshinsky played a key role in the family's acquisition of the Orlando City SC and Orlando Pride soccer teams in 2021 and continues working in a management capacity. Her NFL tenure (began in 2017) includes Rising 25 honors from Front Office Sports in 2020. Oshinsky is engaged in charitable causes, including as a board member of the Minnesota Vikings Foundation, the American Society for Yad Vashem and Facing History and Ourselves.

STEPHANIE WILF KAHN

Kahn is heavily involved with the family's real estate firm Garden Homes, focusing on the marketing and advertising functions. She also plays active roles within several other Wilf family entities, including Skyline Developers and MV Ventures. Kahn serves as co-chair and director of the Minnesota Vikings Foundation and as a trustee of the Wilf Family Foundations, which has provided significant and impactful grants and donations to numerous causes.

JASON WILF

The 2025 season will mark Jason Wilf's 21st as a member of the Minnesota Vikings ownership group. He plays a leadership role in the Wilf family's real estate and sports projects in Minnesota and nationally. Wilf is a partner in Garden Homes, the family-owned, nationwide leader in retail, commercial and private residential development. Wilf is actively engaged in philanthropy as a trustee of the Wilf Family Foundations with a passion for supporting youth development, underserved communities, educational opportunities and quality health care for all.

defibtech
A Nihon Kohden Company

THE REAL MVP?

The AED That Brings Someone Back.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) can happen anytime, anywhere — on the field, at work, in school, at the gym, or even at the park. When every second counts, being prepared can save a life.

Defibtech's Lifeline AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) are designed for moments like these. They are easy to recognize and use, are rugged, allowing for use in many environments, are affordable and simple to maintain. Having an AED on-site means you're not just prepared — you're empowered to make a life-saving difference.

Protect your team - employees, students, passengers, or the general public – with a Lifeline AED today!

CONTACT US TODAY!
Scan the **QR Code** or Call **1-866-DEFIB-4-U**
to equip your team with Lifeline AEDs

EVPs

JEFF ANDERSON

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

HOMETOWN: ADAIR, IOWA **ALMA MATER:** BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY

LESTER BAGLEY

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

HOMETOWN: BARRON, WISCONSIN **ALMA MATER:** UCLA

DON BECKER

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF REAL ESTATE & STRATEGIC PROJECTS

HOMETOWN: BRANCHVILLE, NEW JERSEY **ALMA MATERS:** PACE UNIVERSITY, RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL AND NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

ROB BRZEZINSKI

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

HOMETOWN: ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

ALMA MATER: NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

LARA JURAS

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF PEOPLE & CULTURE OFFICER

HOMETOWN: MARSHALL, MICHIGAN **ALMA MATER:** ALBION COLLEGE

Hanes
PREMIUM
STAY COOOOOL. STAY SUPPORTED.
Total Support Pouch®
RINGTHEBELL
on Archive.org
FLEXIBLE Cooling Fabric
Total Support Pouch®
HANES
HANES
Hanes
COMFORT FLEX FIT
©2025 Hanesbrands Inc. All rights reserved.

EVPs

MARTIN NANCE

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER
HOMETOWN: ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
ALMA MATERS: MIAMI UNIVERSITY (OHIO) AND UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

KARIN NELSEN

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER
HOMETOWN: WESTBROOK, MINNESOTA
ALMA MATERS: MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO AND UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

STEVE POPPEN

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
HOMETOWN: WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA
ALMA MATER: EVANGEL UNIVERSITY

KATE SHIBILSKI

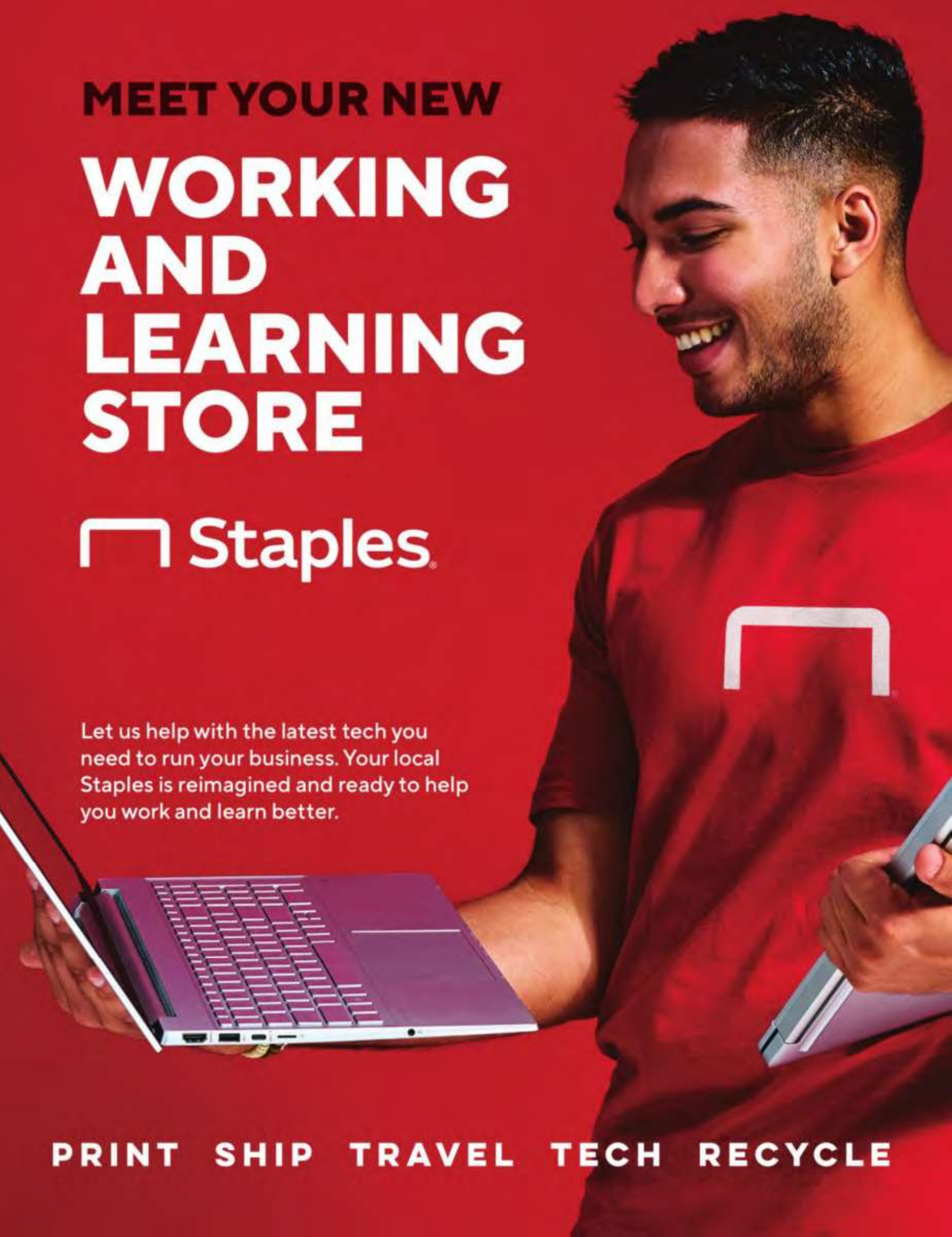
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
HOMETOWN: NORTH MANKATO, MINNESOTA
ALMA MATER: UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

MEET YOUR NEW

WORKING AND LEARNING STORE

Staples

Let us help with the latest tech you need to run your business. Your local Staples is reimagined and ready to help you work and learn better.



PRINT SHIP TRAVEL TECH RECYCLE

KATHLEEN COYLE

VICE PRESIDENT OF PREMIUM SALES

HOMETOWN: MINNETONKA, MINNESOTA **ALMA MATER:** BROWN UNIVERSITY

BRYAN HARPER

VICE PRESIDENT OF CONTENT & PRODUCTION

HOMETOWN: EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

ALMA MATER: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

MORGAN KENNEDY

VICE PRESIDENT OF PARTNERSHIP + PREMIUM EXPERIENCE

HOMETOWN: DENVER, COLORADO

ALMA MATERS: COLORADO AND VIRGINIA

NICK LOPEZZO

VICE PRESIDENT OF BRAND MARKETING AND FAN ENGAGEMENT

HOMETOWN: LONG VALLEY, NEW JERSEY

ALMA MATERS: NORTH CAROLINA AND MICHIGAN

CHAD LUNDEEN

VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS & FACILITIES

HOMETOWN: LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA

ALMA MATER: MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

GoodRx

Hey, Minnesota fans!

Tackle high prescription prices with GoodRx

It's fast, free, and can save you up to 80%*

RINGTHEBELL22 on Archive.org

GoodRx is NOT insurance. *In 2024, GoodRx users saved 83% on retail prescription prices.

Download the app or visit goodrx.com to start saving

NICK MAURER

VICE PRESIDENT OF CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP SALES

HOMETOWN: PIERZ, MINNESOTA **ALMA MATER:** ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

CHERYL NYGAARD

VICE PRESIDENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

HOMETOWN: MOUNDS VIEW, MINNESOTA

J.P. PAUL

VICE PRESIDENT OF STADIUM OPERATIONS

HOMETOWN: TOLEDO, OHIO **ALMA MATER:** MIAMI UNIVERSITY (OHIO)

BRETT TABER

VICE PRESIDENT OF SOCIAL IMPACT

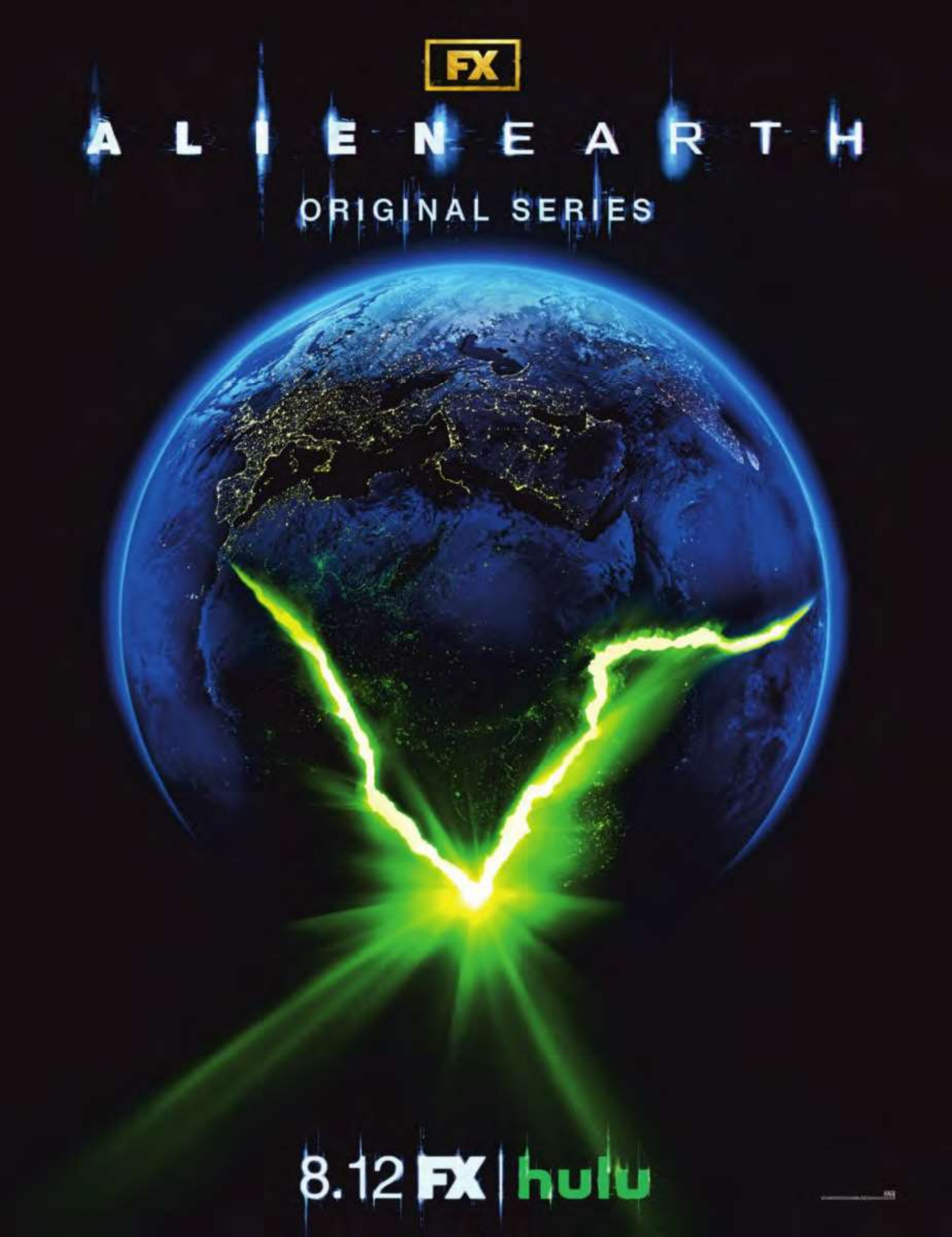
HOMETOWN: AMES, IOWA **ALMA MATER:** UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

TYLER WILLIAMS

VICE PRESIDENT OF PLAYER HEALTH & PERFORMANCE

ALMA MATERS: TRUMAN STATE AND CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOMETOWN: CRYSTAL CITY, MISSOURI


FX
ALIEN EARTH
ORIGINAL SERIES
8.12 FX | hulu

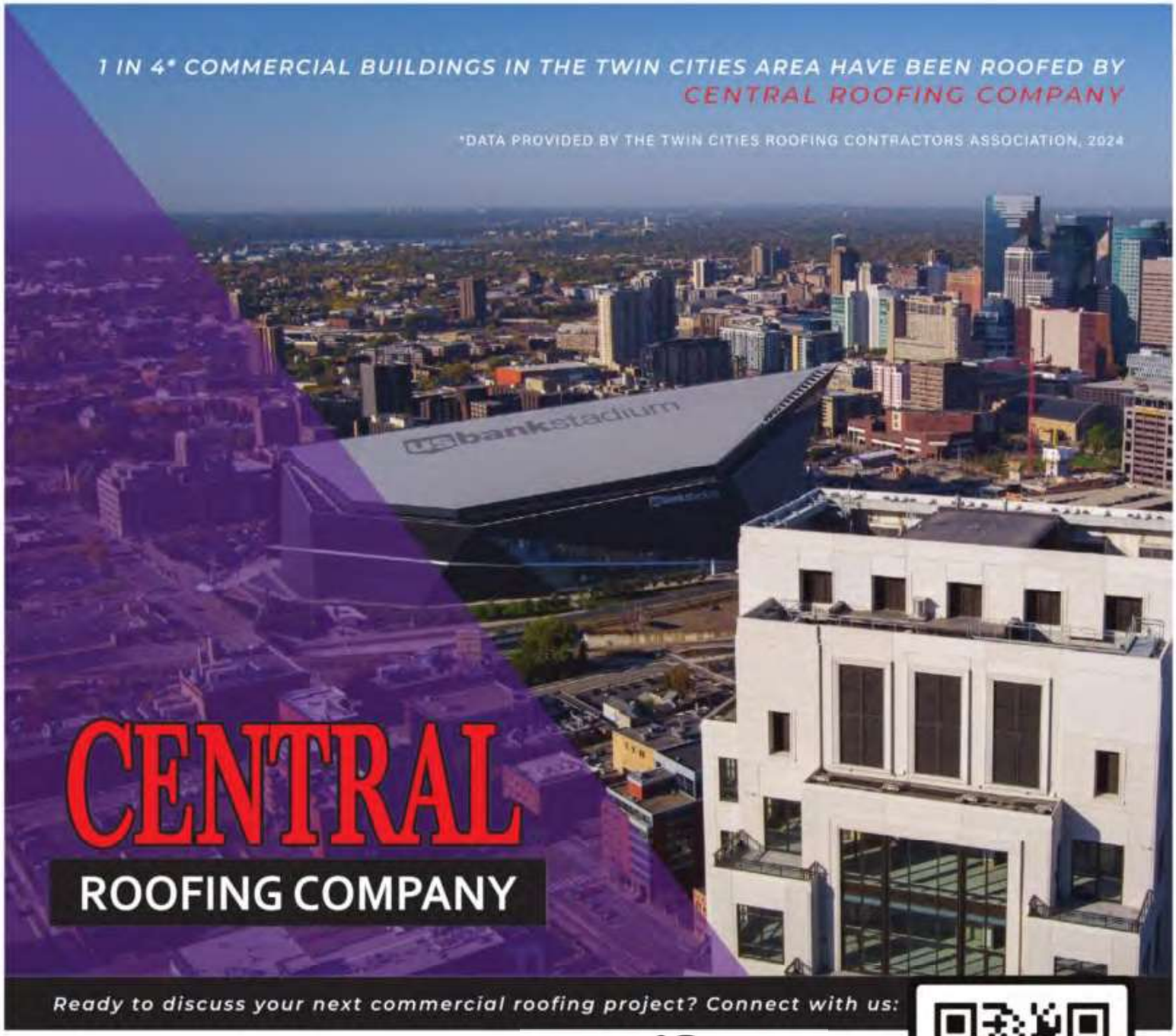
SKOL VIKINGS

09.08 WK 1 7:15 PM @ CHI	11.09 WK 10 NOON VS. BAL
09.14 WK 2 7:20 PM VS. ATL	11.16 WK 11 NOON VS. CHI
09.21 WK 3 NOON VS. CIN	11.23 WK 12 NOON @ GB
09.28 WK 4 8:30 AM @ PIT	11.30 WK 13 3:05 PM @ SEA
10.05 WK 5 8:30 AM @ CLE	12.07 WK 14 NOON VS. WAS
WK 6 BYE	12.14 WK 15 7:20 PM @ DAL
10.19 WK 7 NOON VS. PHI	12.21 WK 16 NOON @ NYG
10.23 WK 8 7:15 PM @ LAC	12.25 WK 17 3:30 PM VS. DET
11.02 WK 9 NOON @ DET	TBD WK 18 TBD VS. GB

ALL TIMES CENTRAL | NFL FLEX SCHEDULING BEGINS IN WEEK 5

1 IN 4 COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN THE TWIN CITIES AREA HAVE BEEN ROOFED BY*
CENTRAL ROOFING COMPANY

*DATA PROVIDED BY THE TWIN CITIES ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, 2024



CENTRAL
ROOFING COMPANY

Ready to discuss your next commercial roofing project? Connect with us:

SINCE 1929,
WE ARE ALWAYS ON TOP®

RING THE BELL
on Archive.org

COMMERCIAL ROOFING | SHEET METAL | SERVICE & REPAIRS | PANELS

Central Roofing Company is a nationally certified, woman-owned and operated private corporation based in Minneapolis, MN. Established in 1929, the company has more than 200 union employees. Central Roofing Company focuses on projects for commercial roofing, repairs, exterior services, waterproofing, sheet metal, and architectural wall panels. Central Roofing Company is home to Minnesota's largest commercial roofing service fleet and offers 24/7 emergency response and extensive preventative maintenance options.

centralroofing.com

2025 SCHEDULE

10 TAKEAWAYS FROM VIKINGS SLATE

You can put the 2025 Minnesota Vikings schedule in ink.

Unless NFL Flex Scheduling comes into play after Week 5, that is.

But what we do know is that the slate is full of historical significance, including rarities of opening with back-to-back prime-time games (at Chicago and against Atlanta) and hosting a Christmas Day game.

The Vikings also will become the first NFL team to play in back-to-back international games in two countries.

HERE ARE 10 TAKEAWAYS FROM THE VIKINGS 2025 SCHEDULE:

1. HISTORIC DOUBLE DIPS BEFORE BYE

The Vikings will open on the road at the Chicago Bears for a *Monday Night Football* contest and follow by hosting the Atlanta Falcons in Week 2 on *Sunday Night Football*.

It's not unusual for teams that were successful in the previous season to make multiple appearances in prime time, but a team opening with back-to-back night games doesn't happen often.

In fact, Minnesota has only opened one season (1981) with back-to-back games in prime time with a Saturday night game at Tampa Bay and a Monday night game against the Raiders. Both resulted in losses by the Vikings to start the team's final season at Metropolitan Stadium.

That's not the only double dip. By now you've heard the Vikings will become the first team in NFL history to play consecutive international games as the road team and the first to appear in two countries other than the United States in one season.

Minnesota has traveled well, going 4-0 in regular-season games played in London and will try to chalk a victory over Pittsburgh in Ireland in Week 4 before returning to the UK to face the Cleveland Browns. Interestingly, Minnesota is the only team Pittsburgh and Cleveland have played in a regular-season game on international soil.

The groupings mean Minnesota will have only one noon (CT) kickoff in its first five games.

Handling the travel and adjustments is something the Vikings have done well and accomplished in two London Games since 2022. They'll need to do so again for a good start to 2025.

2. MCCARTHY & YOUNG QBS TAKE CENTER STAGE EARLY

The Vikings era with J.J. McCarthy at quarterback will launch in the second-year pro's hometown.

The No. 10 overall pick of 2024 is poised to face that year's top selection, Caleb Williams, in the first of what could be many division battles.

The young QB comparisons will flow into Week 2 including the anticipated matchup with 2024 No. 8 overall pick Michael Penix, Jr., who started three games last season after Atlanta pivoted from former

WIN OR LOSE,
SATISFY WITH SNICKERS

MAKE A WINNING PLAY.

© 2025 Mars or Affiliates.

Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins.

Cleveland has some decisions to make at QB but drafted two quarterbacks this year. Washington's visit (Week 14) will provide an opportunity to face 2024 No. 2 pick Jayden Daniels.

3. ROLLING 7: EXCLUSIVE-WINDOW GAMES

Consider it a sign of respect.

The Vikings are scheduled to participate in seven "exclusive-window games" meaning they'll be involved in the only NFL game in a particular time slot.

In addition to Weeks 1-2 and 4-5, the Vikings also are scheduled for a Thursday night game at the Los Angeles Chargers on Prime Video, a Sunday night game at Dallas on NBC and the Christmas Day game against Detroit, which will be streamed by Netflix at 3:30 p.m. (CT).

4. DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN

Stop us if you've heard this before.

The Vikings play in London in Week 5, have a Week 6 bye, a really tough home game in Week 7 and a trip to Los Angeles for a Thursday game in Week 8.

The late, great Yogi Berra would sum that up as "déjà vu all over again" and wouldn't have to dip too far into the past for a reference.

2024: Week 5 vs. Jets in London, Week 6 Bye, Week 7 vs. Lions, Week 8 at L.A. Rams on Thursday

2025: Week 5 vs. Browns in London, Week 6 Bye, Week 7 vs. Eagles, Week 8 at L.A. Chargers on Thursday

Having a mini bye just two weeks after the full bye didn't seem great a year ago, but Minnesota followed opening 5-2 with a nine-game winning streak, so we'll see how this year goes.

5. A FEARSOME FOURSOME

No, the Rams aren't on the schedule. No need to worry about the legacy of Deacon Jones, Merlin Olsen, Rosey Grier or Lamar Lundy reincarnate.

But the stretch against the Eagles, Chargers, Lions and Ravens is a four-game run against teams that were a combined 52-16 during the 2024 regular season.

6. FINDING SOME NORMALCY IN NOVEMBER

That tough combo does at least come with a degree of normalcy. The Week 9 game at Detroit will open November as the first of four consecutive noon (CT) kickoffs, and three that won't even involve changing time zones.

7. BORDER BATTLE STATUS CHECK

We've done a takeaways-style story for several schedule releases, and it seems pretty late in the article to bring up the Border Battle. That's not a sign of disrespect toward Green Bay. Instead, it indicates how late in the year it will be for the first of two Vikings-Packers games.

Minnesota will visit Green Bay in November for the first time since 2020. The teams will not meet again until Week 18 to conclude the regular season. It will be the first time since 2015 the teams have met to wrap a season and the first occurrence of Minnesota being the host since 2012.

8. DOUBLE DROUGHTS OF HOME GAMES

It doesn't really set in until you take a look at the graphics the Vikings True North department made for computer, tablet and phone wallpapers, but Minnesota has double droughts when it comes to home games.

It has been common in each of the past six seasons for the Vikings to be away from U.S. Bank Stadium for the middle part of the season. This year, there will be two such instances.

2019: One home game between Oct. 14 and Nov. 17
2020: One home game between Oct. 19 and Nov. 22
2021: One home game between Oct. 11 and Nov. 21
2022: One home game between Oct. 10 and Nov. 20
2023: One home game between Oct. 24 and Nov. 27
2024: One home game between Oct. 21 and Dec. 1
2025: One home game between Sept. 22 and Nov. 9 AND
2025: One home game between Nov. 17 and Dec. 25

9. HO, HO, HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Vikings will play on Christmas Day for just the fifth time in franchise history and be the holiday host for just the third time.

That matchup will be followed by hosting Green Bay. The day and time for that game won't be decided until Week 17 because of the playoff ramifications that could exist across the NFL heading into Week 18.

10. MIGHT HIT A BIT OF WEATHER LATE IN THE SEASON

The Vikings will have a trio of outdoor games in the back half of the season, beginning with that trip to Green Bay on Nov. 23 and a jaunt to the Pacific Northwest the following week, where it was rainy and sub-50 last December in Minnesota's Week 16 win at Seattle.

Throw in Week 16 at the New York Giants, and things could look a little different than they did when Minnesota opened 2024 there on a 64-degree day last September.

NISSAN
TRUCK AROUND
AND FIND OUT.
The Nissan Frontier PRO-4X
Designed for the off-road, the 2025 Frontier PRO-4X combines
a 310 hp V6 engine with Lifted Suspension and Bilstein Shocks.
It's the truck to keep up with our drivers' epic adventures.
Find out more at NissanUSA.com/FrontierPRO4X

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

KWESI ADOFO-MENSAH

VIKINGS SIGN GENERAL MANAGER TO CONTRACT EXTENSION

NFL EXPERIENCE: 13TH SEASON **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4TH SEASON

The Vikings and General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah agreed to a multiyear contract extension that the team announced May 30, 2025.

"Kwesi's leadership, vision and collaboration with our coaching staff has positioned the Minnesota Vikings for sustained success," Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf said. "His dedication and forward-thinking approach have been instrumental in shaping our roster and future, and we are confident that under the guidance of him and Kevin O'Connell, we will continue to compete at the highest level as we pursue a championship for Vikings fans."

Vikings Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf added: "We are extremely excited to continue this journey with Kwesi in this role and confident in the direction he and Kevin are leading our organization. Kwesi's commitment to building a championship-caliber team and his ability to collaborate effectively and make bold, calculated decisions has positioned the Vikings for long-term success."

Adofo-Mensah was entering the final year of his four-year contract he signed upon his hire in January 2022. He said he is "beyond excited to continue this journey" with the Vikings and with O'Connell, who signed an extension with Minnesota in January.

"This organization means so much to me, and I've always believed in what we're building here. From the ownership to the incredible staff, there's a true commitment to creating a winning culture with the goal of competing year in and year out," Adofo-Mensah said. "I'm thankful for the trust the Wilf family has placed in me, and I'm thrilled to continue leading our football operation alongside Coach O'Connell. Minnesota has welcomed my family with open arms, and we embrace the sacrifices that come with chasing the ultimate prize, knowing what it will mean to the best fan base and this great state.

"While we've made significant strides already, our focus will remain on building a team positioned as a perennial contender," Adofo-Mensah added. "This extension signifies we are on solid ground with the long-term vision we have set, and I'm incredibly excited to work with this group of talented people as we continue to push the boundaries of what this franchise can achieve."

Adofo-Mensah has helped the Vikings go 34-17 in three regular seasons, for the sixth-highest win percentage in the NFL, as he and his department have guided the roster through significant personnel changes. His tenure includes the hiring of O'Connell, the 2024 NFL Coach of the Year, as well as contract extensions for franchise pillars Justin Jefferson, T.J. Hockenson, Christian Darrisaw and Andrew Van Ginkel.

The 2024 free agency class is one of the best in team history and helped Minnesota go 14-3 for the second most wins in a season in franchise history. The Vikings signed QB Sam Darnold, RB Aaron Jones, Sr., OLBs Van Ginkel and Jonathan Greenard, as well as LB Blake Cashman in the initial wave and continued to strategically build the roster.

The Vikings also were aggressive in the 2024 NFL Draft, trading up one spot to select J.J. McCarthy at No. 10 overall (the highest Minnesota has drafted a QB) and moving up the board to select outside linebacker Dallas Turner at No. 17 overall.

During 2025 free agency, the Vikings focused their early efforts on adding to the offensive and defensive lines.

Minnesota signed veteran interior defensive linemen Jonathan Allen and Javon Hargrave, as well as center Ryan Kelly and right guard Will Fries to begin this year's effort. The Vikings also re-signed cornerback Byron Murphy, Jr., and added to the position with free agents Isaiah Rodgers and Jeff Okudah.

The o-line efforts continued in the 2025 NFL Draft when Minnesota selected Donovan Jackson out of Ohio State with the 24th overall pick. Although Minnesota began with just four selections, Adofo-Mensah was able to navigate the board to add four more players and acquire backup QB Sam Howell by navigating the draft board with Day 2 and 3 trades.

Adofo-Mensah has gone beyond the advanced-planning acquisitions to execute key in-season deals just before trade deadlines. The first was in 2022 when Minnesota acquired Hockenson, who has already racked up 196 catches for 1,934 yards in 35 regular-season games played for the Vikings.

In 2023, Adofo-Mensah responded to Kirk Cousins' season-ending Achilles injury by adding QB Joshua Dobbs just before the trade deadline, and this past season, the Vikings acquired Cam Robinson to fill the large void created when Darrisaw was lost for the season in Week 8. Robinson helped Minnesota win nine consecutive games from Week 9-17.

SOUTH DAKOTA MINES

WHY BLEND IN?
STAND OUT.

#1 ENGINEERING SCHOOL
FOR RETURN ON INVESTMENT

$77,067
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

MINNESOTA STUDENTS PAY IN-STATE RATE

Prior to his hire by Minnesota, Adofo-Mensah worked closely with Cleveland Browns Executive Vice President of Football Operations and General Manager Andrew Berry and provided input for all roster and strategy decisions. Adofo-Mensah helped oversee the Browns 2021 NFL Draft, where the team selected NFL All-Rookie selections CB Greg Newsome II and LB Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah.

Before joining the Browns in 2020, Adofo-Mensah spent seven seasons with San Francisco, where he first entered the NFL. Adofo-Mensah quickly advanced in the 49ers football research and development department, developing and implementing advanced quantitative methods for game strategy and personnel evaluation, playing a vital role in helping the 2019 NFC No. 1 playoff seed 49ers capture the conference title.

Adofo-Mensah began his professional career as an associate portfolio manager at Taylor Woods Capital and Vice President/Executive Director at Credit Suisse as a commodities trader before entering the NFL in 2013.

A native of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, Adofo-Mensah received his bachelor's degree in economics from Princeton University, where he also played basketball. After graduating from Princeton, Adofo-Mensah went on to receive his master's in economics from Stanford University.

2025 VIKINGS PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Kwesi Adofo-Mensah – General Manager
Rob Brzezinski – Executive Vice President of Football Operations
Ryan Grigson – Assistant General Manager
Demitrius Washington – Assistant General Manager
Ryan Monnens – Director of Player Personnel
Chisom Opara – Assistant Director of Player Personnel
Sam DeLuca – Director of Pro Personnel
Jamaal Stephenson – Senior Personnel Executive
Mike Sholiton – Director of College Scouting
Pat Roberts – Senior College Executive
Sean Gustus – National Scout
David Williams – National Scout
Jake Essler – College Area Scout (Midwest)
Blaine Gramer – College Area Scout
Matt Kelly – College Area Scout
Steve Sabo – College Area Scout
Michelle Mankoff – College Area Scout (Northeast)
Jack Murphy – College Scout/BLESTO
Salli Clavelle – Pro Scout
Alex Dale – Pro Scout
Shane Normandeau – Pro Scout
Taylor Brooks – Senior Player Personnel Analyst
Kaitlin Zarecki – Senior Football Operations Manager, Special Assistant to General Manager & Head Coach
Emily Badis – Senior Manager of Football Administration
Chris French – Football Quantitative Methods Senior Analyst
Cole Bransford – Football Quantitative Methods Analyst
Luke Burson – Senior Director of Football Information Systems
Mike Desplenter – Senior Database Administrator
Anthony Caron – Football Information Systems Developer
Derek McCormick – Football Information Systems Developer
Paul Wiggin – Player Personnel Consultant
Dabness Atkins – Scouting Associate
Brian Schnorr – Scouting Associate
Grace Liebl – SQL Database Associate
Quinn Gjersvig – Director of Family Engagement

RING THE BELL
on Archive.org

VIKINGS NAMED AP FIRST-TEAM ALL-PRO UNDER ADOFO-MENSAH

LS Andrew DePaola, 2022 & 2024
WR Justin Jefferson, 2022 & 2024

VIKINGS NAMED AP SECOND-TEAM ALL-PRO UNDER ADOFO-MENSAH

KR Kene Nwangwu, 2022
LS Andrew DePaola, 2023
OLB Andrew Van Ginkel, 2024

VIKINGS NAMED TO PRO BOWL UNDER ADOFO-MENSAH

RB Dalvin Cook, 2022
QB Kirk Cousins, 2022
QB Sam Darnold, 2024
LS Andrew DePaola, 2022-2024
OLB Jonathan Greenard, 2024
FB C.J. Ham, 2023
TE T.J. Hockenson, 2022
OLB Danielle Hunter, 2022 & 2023
WR Justin Jefferson, 2022 & 2024
CB Byron Murphy, Jr., 2024
T Brian O'Neill, 2024
OLB Za'Darius Smith, 2022
OLB Andrew Van Ginkel, 2024

ADOFO-MENSAH'S BACKGROUND

EDUCATION
Princeton University
(bachelor's degree in economics)
Stanford University
(master's degree in economics)

NFL EXPERIENCE
2013-16 Manager of Football Research & Development // San Francisco 49ers
2017-19 Director of Football Research & Development // San Francisco 49ers
2020-21 Vice President of Football Operations // Cleveland Browns
2022- General Manager // Minnesota Vikings

tp-link | tapo

The No.1 Consumer Wi-Fi Brand* is Now a Smart Home Champion.

As leaders in consumer Wi-Fi, TP-Link routers and Deco mesh systems deliver the speed and reliability you crave for unparalleled online experiences. TP-Link Tapo offers an array of dependable smart home devices and accessories designed with affordability in mind. Trusted by millions of users worldwide, Tapo products prioritize quality and performance, ensuring your smart home thrives every day - especially on game day.

RINGTHEBELL on Archive.org

*The No.1 global provider of WLAN devices for 12 consecutive years, according to the IDC Worldwide Quarterly Wireless LAN Tracker, Q4 2022 (claim based on worldwide shipments).

Learn more:
https://www.tp-link.com/us/

Archer Routers

Deco Mesh Systems

Home Security

Doorbells & Locks

Plugs & Switches

Smart Lighting

KEVIN O'CONNELL

2024 NFL COACH OF THE YEAR

Kevin O'Connell was named *The Associated Press'* 2024 NFL Coach of the Year during *NFL Honors* just before Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans.

Or, should we say "K.O.ach" of the Year?

O'Connell, who signed a contract extension with Minnesota Jan. 21, has gone 34-17 over his first three seasons at the helm – including leading the 2024 Vikings to a 14-3 regular-season finish ahead of their Wild Card loss to the Rams.

He noted after reaching the extension that being head coach of the Minnesota Vikings is "something I never take for granted."

"I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Wilf [family ownership group] for their unwavering belief in what we are building together," O'Connell said. "None of this would be possible without the dedication of our coaches, players and support staff. I can't wait to get back to work with all of them as we continue to build upon the high standard we've set and the positive environment we've created."

It's that environment that has helped talented free agents – including the likes of 2024 defensive additions Andrew Van Ginkel, Jonathan Greenard and Blake Cashman – not only find a home in Minnesota but mesh seamlessly into the Vikings locker room and overall culture, as well as immediately contribute to on-field success.

Minnesota added more veterans in 2025, quickly signing Ryan Kelly and Will Fries on the offensive line and defensive linemen Jonathan Allen and Javon Hargrave to unfurl a plan of adding impact players up front.

Tight end T.J. Hockenson, who wrapped up his third season with O'Connell, was asked about him after Minnesota secured its 13th win at Seattle in Week 16.

"He's one of the best in the league, if not *the* best," Hockenson said. "We're very fortunate to be able to play for him. To get 13 wins in his first two out of three seasons is massive, and it just shows the type of program he set up, the type of culture he set up here."

The Vikings of course went on to defeat the division-rival Packers at home Week 17, marking the second-best victory total in franchise history.

Known across the league as one of the game's top offensive minds, O'Connell became the first head coach since at least 1950 to win 14 or more games in a season behind a quarterback who is in his first year with a team. Sam Darnold logged career numbers with Minnesota, finishing the campaign with 4,319 passing yards, 35 passing touchdowns and a passer rating of 102.5.

O'Connell implemented a "1-and-0" mentality that organically became a motto for the 2024 Vikings.

Minnesota was 9-1 in one-possession games in 2024, the second-best mark league-wide, trailing only the Kansas City Chiefs (11-0). O'Connell, who is 26-9 in one-possession games (.743) as a head coach, surpassed NFL Legend John Madden (.732) for the second-best winning percentage in NFL history in one-score contests (minimum 25 games). Only Hall of Fame Head Coach Guy Chamberlin (.759, 22-7-7) boasts a better record.

Despite the 2024 Vikings being projected for an NFC North-low 6.5 wins, O'Connell led the team to clinch a playoff berth with four games remaining in the regular season. Minnesota more than doubled its projected win total, capturing 7.5 more victories above expectation – the most among all teams.

O'Connell's *AP* NFL Coach of the Year award joins NFL Coach of the Year honors from Pro Football Writers of America and *Sporting News*, as well as NFC Coach of the Year honors from The Committee of 101.

The Vikings organization commissioned an artist to custom-paint a game ball to present to O'Connell. He became the first Vikings coach to win *AP* Coach of the Year since Bud Grant in 1969.

In May, O'Connell was named the 2025 Horrigan Award Winner by the Pro Football Writers of America (PFWA).

According to the PFWA, the award is given annually to a league, club or other official for his or her qualities and professional style in helping the pro football writers do their job. The following was written of O'Connell for consideration:

O'Connell stands out from his coaching peers because of his openness and helpfulness with reporters. He routinely gives 1-on-1 interviews, meets regularly with beat writers for off-the-record discussions, provides thoughtful explanations for his decisions after games, and he creates an environment for both players and assistant coaches – like Grant Udinski, the assistant QB coach who became the Jaguars offensive coordinator – to feel free to tell their stories.

Since his hire, O'Connell has been gracious with both external and internal media members, often providing insightful responses during press conferences.

He was selected by the PFWA from a group of five finalists that also included Rams President Kevin Demoff, 49ers General Manager John Lynch, NFL Vice President of Communications Brian McCarthy and NFL Executive Vice President of Football Operations Troy Vincent.

O'Connell is the first person to win the Horrigan Award as a Viking. The honor has been presented since 1973. Former Vikings General Manager

Jim Finks (1964-73) won it in 1991 while with the Saints, former Vikings QBs Archie Manning and Warren Moon won it before joining Minnesota, and former Defensive Coordinator Tony Dungy won it after becoming head coach of the Buccaneers.

Named the 10th head coach in Vikings history on Feb. 16, 2022, O'Connell became the fastest head coach in team history to reach 20 wins, needing just 30 games to do so (at Las Vegas in Week 14 of 2023). He broke Dennis Green's record, who won 20 games as the Vikings head coach in his first 32 games during the 1992-93 seasons.

O'Connell navigated the 2023 season with four different starting quarterbacks, the most in franchise history, due to a season-ending injury to QB Kirk Cousins in Week 8. In addition to Cousins, rookie Jaren Hall and veterans Joshua Dobbs and Nick Mullens each started multiple games for the Vikings in 2023. Minnesota won three consecutive games with a different starting quarterback in Weeks 8-10 (Cousins, Hall and Dobbs), and as a result of that stretch, O'Connell became just the 11th head coach in NFL history to lead a team to three straight victories with three different starting QBs, and the first to do so since Bill O'Brien in 2015 (Houston Texans).

In his first season as head coach in 2022, O'Connell led the Vikings to 13 wins, the most by any first-year head coach in franchise history.

Minnesota earned its first division title since 2017 as the team equaled its wins total from that season to tie for the second most in franchise history.

O'Connell guided six players to winning seven Player of the Week awards in 2022, the most by a first-year head coach in franchise history. Seven players garnered Pro Bowl berths, and three earned *Associated Press* All-Pro honors.

O'Connell heavily emphasized his team becoming "Situational Masters," pointing to areas that might not always be prominent on stat sheets but are crucial to winning games. Minnesota experienced immediate improvement in these areas, finishing 11-0 in one-score games during the regular season after going 6-8 in those same situations in 2021.

The team also recorded an NFL-record-tying 10 comeback wins in 2022, including overcoming a 33-point halftime deficit in Week 15 against the Colts, the greatest comeback in NFL history.

O'Connell joined the Vikings after serving as the offensive coordinator for the Los Angeles Rams during the 2020-21 seasons.

With Los Angeles in 2021, O'Connell guided the Rams to finish ninth in total offense (372.1 yards per game). His unit ranked second in plays of 50-plus yards (10), fourth in yards per play (5.98) and eighth in offensive touchdowns (51). Under the guidance of O'Connell, QB Matthew Stafford and receiver Cooper Kupp both had career years in 2021.

Stafford set the single-season team record for passing yards (4,886) and tied Kurt Warner from his 1999 MVP season for the most passing touchdowns in a season by a Rams quarterback with 41. He also won his first playoff game in his 13th season in the NFL.

Kupp, who was named 2021 NFL Offensive Player of the Year by *The Associated Press* and Super Bowl LVI MVP, had one of the best receiving seasons in NFL history, leading the NFL in receptions (145), receiving yards (1,947) and receiving touchdowns (16), earning *AP* First-Team All-Pro and Pro Bowl honors and claiming the Triple Crown.

Prior to joining the Rams, O'Connell worked in Washington, serving as the quarterbacks coach in 2017-18 and the offensive coordinator in 2019.

In 2019, O'Connell helped guide rookie Terry McLaurin to 58 receptions, 919 receiving yards and seven touchdowns. McLaurin's receptions tied for third in franchise history among rookies. His yardage ranks second, and his touchdowns tied for second among Washington rookies.

O'Connell worked on special projects with the San Francisco 49ers in 2016, where he overlapped with Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah. Prior

to his one year in San Francisco, O'Connell was the quarterbacks coach in Cleveland during the 2015 season, helping Josh McCown become the only player in team history to throw for 300 or more passing yards in three consecutive games. McCown, hired in 2024 as Minnesota's quarterbacks coach, also broke the franchise's single-game passing record in 2015, throwing for 457 yards against the Baltimore Ravens.

As a player, O'Connell was drafted in the third round (94th pick) of the 2008 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots out of San Diego State. He played one season for the Patriots behind quarterback Matt Cassel following a season-ending injury to Tom Brady. During the 2009 preseason, O'Connell was claimed by the Detroit Lions and was then later traded to the New York Jets for a seventh-round pick.

O'Connell spent time with the Miami Dolphins before participating in a second flight with the Jets. His time as an NFL player concluded in 2012 after a short stint with the San Diego Chargers.

As a four-year captain at San Diego State, O'Connell finished his career after appearing in 40 games while ranking third in completions (664), fourth in passing yards (7,689) and fifth in passing touchdowns (46) in school history. The Carlsbad, California, native and his wife, Leah, have two sons, Kaden and Kolten, and two daughters, Quinn and Callie. O'Connell's father, Bill, was a longtime FBI agent, and his mother, Suzanne, had a career as an educator. O'Connell has an older sister, Kelley, who is an attorney.

O'CONNELL'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (QUARTERBACK)	COACHING
2004-07 SAN DIEGO STATE	2015 QUARTERBACKS // CLEVELAND BROWNS
2008-09 NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS	2016 SPECIAL PROJECTS // SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS
2009 DETROIT LIONS*	2017 QUARTERBACKS // WASHINGTON COMMANDERS
2009-10 NEW YORK JETS	2018 QUARTERBACKS/PASS GAME COORDINATOR // WASHINGTON COMMANDERS
2011 MIAMI DOLPHINS*	2019 OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR // WASHINGTON COMMANDERS
2011 NEW YORK JETS	2020-21 OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR // LOS ANGELES RAMS
2012 SAN DIEGO CHARGERS*	2022- HEAD COACH // MINNESOTA VIKINGS
** – OFFSEASON ONLY*	

SHERATON
Minneapolis
Downtown Convention Center
RINGTHEBELL7
on
Archive.org
RINGTHEBELL7
on
Archive.org
New & Improved.
Ready for Game Day.
Book Your Stay
• On-site dining and coffee shop
• Indoor pool and fitness center
• Prime downtown location near sports venues
Sheraton Minneapolis Downtown Convention Center | 1313 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403 | 612-332-6000 | Marriott.com/MSPSD

MIKE PETTINE

ASSISTANT HEAD COACH

NFL EXPERIENCE: 23rd Season
VIKINGS EXPERIENCE: 4th Season

Mike Pettine (PETT-in) enters his fourth season with the Minnesota Vikings as the assistant head coach in 2025.

Pettine helped the Vikings to a 14-3 regular-season record and playoff appearance in 2024, the second-most wins in team history, coaching OLBs Jonathan Greenard and Andrew Van Ginkel to Pro Bowl seasons for the first time in both of their careers. Greenard (12 sacks) and Van Ginkel (11.5) finished tied for fifth and tied for eighth in sacks, respectively. They were the only duo leaguewide to each have at least 11.5 sacks on the season. Van Ginkel, the only player in the NFL to return multiple interceptions for touchdowns in 2024, was also named Second-Team All-Pro by *The Associated Press*.

OLB Pat Jones II ranked third on the team with a career-high 7.0 sacks, making the Vikings one of three teams in the NFL with three players with at least 7.0 sacks. Meanwhile, Pettine played an integral role in the development of rookie OLB Dallas Turner, who logged a trio of sacks in his debut season in the NFL and tied D.J. Wonnum for the most sacks by a Vikings rookie since 2016. He also hauled in one interception and joined Ivan Pace, Jr., (2023) as the only Vikings rookie LBs to have an interception over the past 20 seasons.

Pettine helped the Vikings defense improve from 31st overall in 2022 to 16th in 2023. Pettine helped coach the 2022 Vikings defense to the third-most passes defensed in the NFL (87), including 15 interceptions, which was tied for 10th in the league as Minnesota set an NFL record by going 11-0 in one-score games.

Prior to joining the Vikings, Pettine spent the 2021 season as the senior defensive assistant for the Chicago Bears, which ranked sixth in the NFL with 316.7 yards allowed per game.

Pettine was defensive coordinator with the Packers for three seasons, helping Green Bay win the NFC North in 2019 and 2020 and advance to the NFC Championship Game at the end of both seasons.

In his first season as Cleveland's head coach in 2014, Pettine led the Browns to their most victories (seven) since 2007 as they led the league in opponent passer rating (74.1) and opponent completion percentage (57.1) and ranked No. 2 in interceptions (21).

Prior to joining the Browns, Pettine spent five seasons as a defensive coordinator with the Jets (2009-12) and Bills (2013), helping his units finish in the top 10 in total yards allowed and passing yards allowed in all five seasons.

Pettine helped the Jets rank first (2009 and 2010), fourth (2011) and second (2012) in opponent completion percentage. New York advanced to the AFC Championship Game after the 2009 and 2010 seasons.

Pettine spent seven seasons (2002-08) with the Baltimore Ravens, serving as the outside linebackers coach for the final four campaigns.

Before joining the NFL coaching ranks, Pettine was the head coach at North Penn High School (Lansdale, Pennsylvania) from 1997-2001. He led the school to 45 wins in five seasons, including an 11-2 record in 1999.

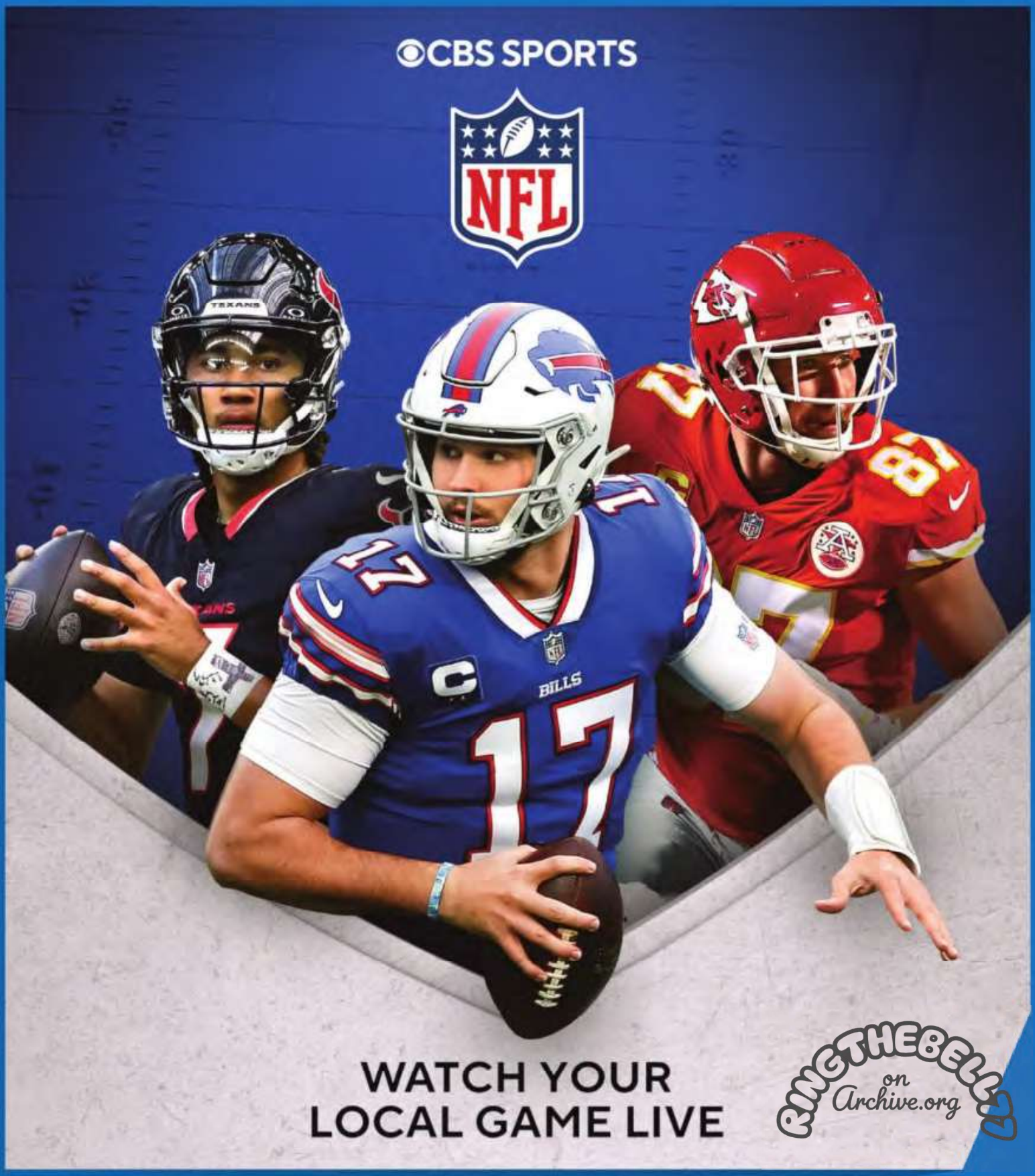
Pettine began his coaching career as an assistant to his father, Mike Sr., at Central Bucks West High School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, for five seasons (1988-92). Mike Sr., who coached 33 seasons at the school, retired after the 1999 campaign as the winningest coach in the history of Pennsylvania high school football with a career record of 326-42-4 (.882). Pettine played for his father and earned all-state honors at quarterback and defensive back before playing safety at the University of Virginia.

Born Sept. 25, 1966, in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, Pettine and his wife Megan have six children in their combined family: daughters Megan, Katie, Paige and McKenna; and sons, Ryan and Max.

PETTINE'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (DEFENSIVE BACK)
1986-87 University of Virginia

COACHING
1988-92 Assistant Coach // Central Bucks West (Pennsylvania)
1993-94 Graduate Assistant // University of Pittsburgh
1995-96 Head Coach // William Tennent (Pennsylvania)
1997-2001 Head Coach // North Penn (Pennsylvania)
2002-03 Coaching Assistant // Baltimore Ravens
2004 Asst. Defensive Line // Baltimore Ravens
2005-08 Outside Linebackers // Baltimore Ravens
2009-12 Defensive Coordinator // New York Jets
2013 Defensive Coordinator // Buffalo Bills
2014-15 Head Coach // Cleveland Browns
2017 Consultant // Seattle Seahawks
2018-20 Defensive Coordinator // Green Bay Packers
2021 Senior Defensive Assistant // Chicago Bears
2022-23 Assistant Head Coach // Minnesota Vikings
2024 Assistant Head Coach/Outside Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings
2025 Assistant Head Coach // Minnesota Vikings


CBS SPORTS
NFL
TEXANS
BILLS
17
WATCH YOUR
LOCAL GAME LIVE
RINGTHEBELL.TV
on
Archive.org
STREAMING ON
Paramount+

MATT DANIELS

SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR

NFL EXPERIENCE: 8th Season (as a coach)
VIKINGS EXPERIENCE: 4th Season

Matt Daniels enters his eighth season coaching in the NFL and fourth with the Minnesota Vikings as special teams coordinator in 2025, after spending two seasons as the assistant special teams coach for the Dallas Cowboys.

In his third season in Minnesota in 2024, Daniels coached LS Andrew DePaola to a third-consecutive Pro Bowl nod, becoming the first long snapper in NFL history to be selected to the Pro Bowl in three-straight seasons (2022-24). DePaola was also named to *The Associated Press'* All-Pro First Team for his performance in 2024, marking his third-consecutive All-Pro nod (First Team in 2022 and Second Team in 2023).

Daniels guided the addition of kicker Will Reichard, who was selected in the sixth round (203rd overall) by the Vikings in the 2024 NFL Draft. Despite missing four games due to injury, Reichard made eight field goals from 50+ yards during his rookie campaign, the second most in a season in franchise history (Blair Walsh, 10). Reichard began his career 14-of-14 on field goal attempts, including four from 50+ yards.

While Reichard and DePaola were on Injured Reserve during Weeks 10-13 of the 2024 season, Daniels welcomed first-year K Parker Romo and veteran LS Jake McQuaide to his special teams unit. Under Daniels' guidance, Romo converted on 11-of-12 field goal attempts, including a long of 55 yards. In his NFL debut in Week 10 at Jacksonville, Romo connected on all four of his field goal attempts and became the first kicker since Cade York in 2022 to make four field goals in his NFL debut.

During 2023, Daniels' second season in Minnesota, the special teams unit executed two successful fake punts. DePaola was named a starter for the Pro Bowl for a second-consecutive season, becoming the first long snapper to earn back-to-back Pro Bowl honors since McQuaide (2016-17 with the Rams).

In his first season with the Vikings in 2022, Kene Nwangwu was named NFC Special Teams Player of the Week for Week 12. Daniels also worked with P Ryan Wright, who set multiple franchise records, including gross punting average (47.4) and net punting average (42.5) by a rookie and was NFC Special Teams Player of the Week for Week 6. In his first season under Daniels, K Greg Joseph earned two NFC Special Teams Player of the Week awards (Weeks 4 and 16). Additionally, Joshua Metellus became the first player since 1995 to record a blocked punt in two consecutive games.

In 2021, Dallas' special teams unit, led by John Fassel and assisted by Daniels, finished in the top five for a second consecutive year in kick return average (24.8). The unit led the league in touchdowns (two blocked punt returns and a 100-yard kickoff return).

The 2020 Cowboys jumped from last in the league in kick return average (16.3) in 2019 to third (26.1) in 2020 and from 26th (5.7) in punt return average in 2019 to 13th (9.1) in 2020.

While with the Rams, Daniels and Fassel deployed one of the most aggressive and creative special teams groups, with an NFL-high eight fake kicks from 2018-19 and six punt returns of 20-plus yards. The group finished second in the league in net punting average (43.0) in 2018.

Daniels joined the Rams after playing in the NFL for four seasons and holding a one-year graduate assistantship at the University of Colorado in 2017. He played in seven games over the course of his four-year NFL career for the Rams (six) and Chargers (one). He also spent time on the Jaguars and Chargers practice squads.

Collegiately, Daniels earned First-Team All-ACC and Second-Team All-America honors as a senior safety, leading Duke in tackles (126) and finishing third in the balloting for ACC Defensive Player of the Year accolades. Daniels played in 46 career games at Duke and compiled totals of 324 tackles, 13 tackles for loss, four interceptions, seven forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and 27 pass breakups. He was named a team captain for the 2011 season.

As a prep at Fayette County High School (Georgia), Daniels was a three-time all-region pick and two-time all-county choice. Additionally, he was named Fayette County's Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year as both a junior and senior, setting the school single-game rushing record with 348 yards on 18 carries. Daniels also participated in track and field at Fayetteville and was honored with the Watkins Award, an honor presented annually to the top African-American high school student-athlete in the country.

Daniels holds a degree in public policy studies with a minor in markets & management studies from Duke. He and his wife, Tiffany, have a daughter, Vara and a son, Yahya.

DANIELS' BACKGROUND

PLAYING (SAFETY)

2008-11 Duke University
2012-14 St. Louis Rams
2014 Jacksonville Jaguars
2015 San Diego Chargers

COACHING

2017 Graduate Assistant (Defense) // University of Colorado
2018-19 Asst. Special Teams // Los Angeles Rams
2020-21 Asst. Special Teams // Dallas Cowboys
2022- Special Teams Coordinator // Minnesota Vikings

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

MAXIMUM PROTECTION

T-10 CONSTRUCTION

In the game of home defense, your roof is the offensive line - and storm damage is the blitz.
At T-10 Construction, we play to win, delivering tough, reliable repairs that
block out wind, hail, and heavy rain before they sack your home.

With T-10 Construction, your home gets more than just a fix - it gets Maximum Protection.

CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE INSPECTION!

612-254-8060

or visit us at T10Construction.com

LIC. #BC736607

BRIAN FLORES

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

NFL EXPERIENCE: 21st Season
VIKINGS EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season

Brian Flores enters his third season with the Minnesota Vikings as defensive coordinator in 2025, bringing more than two decades of NFL experience to Head Coach Kevin O'Connell's staff. Flores spent the 2022 season as the senior defensive assistant/linebackers coach for the Pittsburgh Steelers before joining the Vikings coaching staff on Feb. 6, 2023.

In Flores' first two seasons leading Minnesota's defense (2023-24), the Vikings have totaled 55 takeaways, the third most in the NFL during the span, trailing only Buffalo (62) and Pittsburgh (60). Minnesota has also limited its opponents to an average of 96.1 rushing yards per game since 2023, the third-fewest rushing yards per game over the past two seasons, behind only Detroit (93.6) and Baltimore (94.7).

Flores, who was the runner-up for *The Associated Press*' 2024 Assistant Coach of the Year, helped the Vikings to a 14-3 regular-season record and playoff appearance in 2024, the second-most wins in team history. The team's nine-game win streak from Week 9 to Week 17 tied the third-longest win streak in club history. Minnesota ranked second in the NFL with a 9-1 record in one-possession games in 2024, trailing only Kansas City (11-0).

Despite having 14 defenders on the active roster who were in their first season with Minnesota in 2024, the Vikings led the NFL in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tied for the league lead in takeaways (33). They also ranked second in the NFL in opponent scoring efficiency (31.6%), opponent runs of at least 20 yards (five) and opponents' rushing yards per game (93.4). Minnesota was one of two teams (Houston) with at least five defensive players with 11+ starts in their first season with a team in 2024 (excluding rookies).

Flores' defense was the only unit to record a takeaway in every regular-season game in 2024, breaking a franchise record. Minnesota's 24 interceptions were five more than any other team in the league (Houston, 19) and tied for the team's second-most interceptions in a season since 2000 (28 in 2003 and 24 in 2005).

Under Flores' guidance, three Vikings defenders were selected to their first Pro Bowl in 2025: OLBs Jonathan Greenard and Andrew Van Ginkel and CB Byron Murphy, Jr. Greenard (12 sacks) and Van Ginkel (11.5) were the NFL's only duo with at least 11.5 sacks on the season. Murphy recorded six interceptions in 2024, tied for third most in the NFL.

In his first season in Minnesota, Flores helped the Vikings defense improve from 31st overall in 2022 to 16th in 2023. The Vikings led the NFL in forced fumbles with 22, three more than any other team in the league and the most by the Vikings since forcing 21 in 2007.

In addition to Danielle Hunter, who was tabbed NFC Defensive Player of the Month in October, a trio of Vikings earned NFC Defensive Player of the Week accolades during Flores' inaugural season in Minnesota. LB Jordan Hicks (Week 6 at Chicago), S Camryn Bynum (Week 7 vs. San Francisco) and LB Ivan Pace, Jr., (Week 14 at Las Vegas) claimed honors.

In one season with Pittsburgh, Flores led a defense that gave up just seven rushing touchdowns, which tied with New England for the fewest allowed in the NFL in 2022.

Prior to his time with Pittsburgh, Flores served as the head coach of the Miami Dolphins from 2019-21. Flores helped the Dolphins post back-to-back winning seasons (2020-21) for the first time since 2002-03. In 2021, Miami became the first team in NFL history to snap a seven-game losing streak with a seven-game winning streak.

Flores got his start in the NFL with the New England Patriots, coaching in all three phases of the game – offense, defense and special teams – and helped the franchise win four Super Bowls: XXXIX, XLIX, LI and LIII.

In 2018, Flores helped New England win Super Bowl LIII in his first season as the defensive play-caller. Under his direction, the defense went from 17th to seventh in the league in passer rating, holding opponents to an 85.4 rating.

Flores spent three seasons (2016-18) as the Patriots linebackers coach. In 2016, New England had the NFL's best scoring defense, only allowing 15.6 points per game.

The Brooklyn, New York, native graduated from Boston College, where he played linebacker for four years, with a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in administrative studies. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two sons, Miles and Max, and a daughter, Liliana.

FLORES' BACKGROUND

PLAYING
2000-03 Linebacker // Boston College

SCOUTING
2004-05 Scouting Assistant // New England Patriots
2006-07 Pro Scout // New England Patriots

COACHING
2008-09 Coaching Assistant // New England Patriots
2010 Offensive Assistant // New England Patriots
2011 Defensive Assistant // New England Patriots
2012-15 Safeties // New England Patriots
2016-18 Linebackers // New England Patriots
2019-21 Head Coach // Miami Dolphins
2022 Senior Defensive Assistant/Linebackers // Pittsburgh Steelers
2023- Defensive Coordinator // Minnesota Vikings

POWER THROUGH THE DAY ON A *SINGLE CHARGE*

Multi-day battery life for non-stop productivity, creating and gaming

AMD RYZEN AI | AMD RADEON GRAPHICS

Available at Best Buy

AMD × BEST BUY

together we advance_

GD-173-A

WES PHILLIPS

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

NFL EXPERIENCE: 19th Season
VIKINGS EXPERIENCE: 4th Season

Wes Phillips helped lead the Vikings to a 14-3 regular-season record and playoff appearance in 2024, the second-most wins in team history. The team's nine-game win streak from Week 9 to Week 17 tied the third-longest win streak in club history. Minnesota also boasted a 9-1 record in one-possession games in 2024, trailing only Kansas City (11-0).

In QB Sam Darnold's first season in Minnesota, the Vikings finished the 2024 season ninth in scoring (25.4 points per game) and sixth in passing offense (237.8 yards per game). He became the first quarterback in NFL history to record 14 wins in his first year with a team since at least 1950 when quarterback stats began being tracked. Phillips helped Darnold set new career highs in nearly every passing category and finishing fifth in the NFL in passing yards (4,319) and TD passes (35) and sixth in passer rating (102.5).

In addition to Darnold, Phillips helped several Vikings hit career milestones during the 2024 season. WR Jordan Addison, who finished tied for ninth in the NFL with nine receiving touchdowns, recorded his top two single-game receiving performances in 2024, tallying career highs of 162 yards in Week 12 and three touchdowns in Week 14. WR Justin Jefferson, who was a unanimous All-Pro First-Team honoree in 2024, finished the regular season ranked second in receiving yards (1,533), sixth in receptions (103) and tied for sixth in receiving touchdowns (10). His 14.9 yards per catch led all players with at least 70 receptions. In his first season in Minnesota, RB Aaron Jones, Sr., finished the regular season with career highs in both rushing attempts (255) and rushing yards (1,138).

Despite starting four QBs in multiple games for the first time in team history, the 2023 Vikings ranked fifth in the league in passing yards per game (256.4) and were the NFL's lone team to have three players with 900-plus yards (Jefferson, 1,074; T.J. Hockenson, 960; Addison, 911). The trio tied a record for the most players on a team with at least 900 yards and five receiving touchdowns.

Addison's 10 receiving touchdowns tied for the most among all rookies in the NFL (Sam LaPorta) and tied for the fourth most among all players. Hockenson finished second among tight ends in receptions, tallying a single-season franchise record with 95, and receptions of at least 20 yards (13), despite missing the final two games of the regular season. Jefferson, who started just nine games due to a hamstring injury, achieved his fourth-straight season with 1,000 receiving yards.

The 2022 Vikings finished eighth in the NFL in points scored (24.9 per game), second in passing yards per game (283.4) and third in completions (448). QB Kirk Cousins set team records for passing attempts (643) and passing first downs (230). Jefferson set the Vikings new single-season record for receiving yards (1,809) and receptions (128), passing Hall of Fame WRs Cris Carter (122 in 1994 and 1995) and Randy Moss (1,632 in 2003).

Phillips worked as a tight ends coach from 2013-21, helping a player from his unit post 500-plus receiving yards in nine consecutive seasons. Phillips joined the Vikings after spending three seasons with the Los Angeles Rams.

In 2019, Tyler Higbee set career highs in receptions (69) and receiving yards (734), while Gerald Everett recorded his first career 400-plus yard receiving season.

Prior to his time in Los Angeles, Phillips spent five seasons in Washington. In 2018, Phillips helped TE Jordan Reed lead the team in receptions (54) and receiving yards (558). In 2016, the Washington tight ends combined for 1,306 receiving yards and eight touchdowns.

Phillips' first year as a tight ends coach was in 2013 with the Dallas Cowboys, coaching TE Jason Witten to a 73-reception, 851-receiving yard, eight-touchdown season and Pro Bowl berth.

A former quarterback who was a three-year letter winner at UTEP (1999-2001), Phillips was part of the 2000 team that claimed a WAC title. He played in 11 games during his final year at the school, throwing for 1,839 yards and 10 touchdowns. Following his college career, he went to play for the San Diego Riptide in the AF2 Arena Football league.

Phillips is a third-generation NFL coach. His grandfather, Bum, was the head coach of the Houston Oilers (1975-80) and New Orleans Saints (1981-85) and his father, Wade, who has been a head coach for the Denver Broncos (1993-94), Buffalo Bills (1998-2000) and Dallas Cowboys (2007-10). Phillips and his wife, Anna, have two daughters, Ivy and Minnie, and a son, Mac.

PHILLIPS' BACKGROUND

PLAYING (QUARTERBACK)
1999-2001 Texas-El Paso
2002-03 San Diego Riptide

COACHING
2003 Student Assistant // Texas-El Paso
2004-05 Quarterbacks // West Texas A&M
2006 Quarterbacks // Baylor
2007-10 Quality Control/Offensive Assistant // Dallas Cowboys
2011-12 Assistant Offensive Line Coach // Dallas Cowboys
2013 Tight Ends Coach // Dallas Cowboys
2014-18 Tight Ends Coach // Washington Commanders
2019-20 Tight Ends Coach // Los Angeles Rams
2021 Tight Ends Coach/Pass Game Coordinator // Los Angeles Rams
2022- Offensive Coordinator // Minnesota Vikings

Show your team pride all year.

Get a U.S. Bank Visa® Debit Card with the Minnesota Vikings design when you open a U.S. Bank Smartly® Checking Account.

Smart. Simple. Secure. Bank better with a Bank Smartly Checking account and earn extra perks with our complimentary Smart Rewards program.

The Official Bank of the Minnesota Vikings

RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

usbank

usbank.com

The U.S. Bank Visa® Debit Card is issued by U.S. Bank National Association, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc.

1. All regular account opening procedures apply. $25 minimum deposit required to open a U.S. Bank consumer checking account. Members of the military (requires self-disclosure) and clients ages 24 and under and those 65 and over pay no monthly maintenance fee. Digital financial services benchmarking firm Keynova Group ranked U.S. Bank #1 for mobile banking apps in its Q3 2023 Mobile Banker Scorecard. Deposit products are offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. Member FDIC. ©2025 U.S. Bank 1477502 6/25

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

The Minnesota Vikings and Vikings logo are registered trademarks of NFL Properties, Inc.

ASSISTANT COACHES

IMARJAYE ALBURY SR.

ASSISTANT DEFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 5th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 6th Season

Imarjaye Albury, Sr. (im-MAR-jay AL-berry) enters his sixth season with the Minnesota Vikings in 2025 and fifth as a member of the Vikings coaching staff, having spent the 2022 season as a pro scout, working under General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah. Prior to his role as a pro scout, Albury spent the 2020 and 2021 seasons with Minnesota as defensive quality control/assistant linebackers coach. From 2023-24, Albury was a defensive assistant.

Albury helped the Vikings to a 14-3 regular-season record and playoff appearance in 2024, assisting a defense that led the NFL in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tied for the league lead in takeaways (33). Minnesota also ranked second in the NFL in opponent scoring efficiency (31.6%), opponent runs of at least 20 yards (five) and opponents' rushing yards per game (93.4).

Prior to arriving in Minnesota, Albury spent the 2018 and 2019 seasons as a defensive graduate assistant at the University of Arkansas, where he worked primarily with the defensive line. In addition to assisting the defensive line coach and defensive staff in game planning and practice management, he helped recruit.

Albury began his coaching career in 2017 at NCAA Division III Cortland State University in Cortland, New York, working as the defensive line and special teams coach. Under his tutelage, the Red Dragons recorded 31 sacks as a team in 2017, ranking second in the Empire 8 Conference, and the special teams unit led the conference with six field goal blocks.

As a player, Albury spent one season at West Virginia in 2012 before transferring to Florida International, where he was a three-year starter along the defensive line for the Panthers. Albury finished with 76 career tackles, 5.5 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks over 36 game appearances at FIU, serving as a team captain and earning the program's Defensive MVP award in 2016. After participating in the 2017 NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, Albury participated in rookie minicamps with the Packers and Chargers before joining the coaching ranks.

Albury attended Miami Northwestern High School, the same high school as former Vikings QB Teddy Bridgewater. Albury and his wife, Brittany, have a son, Imarjaye Jr., who goes by "Junior" and a daughter, Jordyn.

ALBURY'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (DEFENSIVE LINE)
2012 West Virginia
2013-16 Florida International

COACHING
2017 Defensive Line/Special Teams // Cortland State
2018-19 Graduate Assistant // Arkansas
2020-21 Defensive Quality Control/Assistant Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings
2022 Pro Scout // Minnesota Vikings
2023-24 Defensive Assistant // Minnesota Vikings
2025- Assistant Defensive Line // Minnesota Vikings

BRIAN ANGELICHIO

PASSING GAME COORDINATOR/TIGHT ENDS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 14th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Brian Angelichio (an-juh-LEEK-o) is entering his fourth season as the Vikings tight ends/passing game coordinator after working with the Carolina Panthers from 2020-21.

During the 2024 season, Angelichio coached TEs Johnny Mundt (two) and Josh Oliver (three) to career highs in touchdown receptions. Oliver also posted a single-season, career-high 258 receiving yards. According to Next Gen Stats, Oliver boasted the second highest rating (140.8) among players with at least 20 targets in 2024 (22 rec., 258 yards and 3 TDs on 28 targets). Only Mark Andrews (55 rec., 673 yards and 11 TDs on 69 targets), finished with a better rating of 140.9.

Angelichio navigated the first seven games of the 2024 season without TE T.J. Hockenson due to the injury he suffered at the end of the 2023 season. Hockenson returned in Week 9 and registered 41 receptions for 455 yards. His 11.1 yards per reception ranked third among tight ends with at least 35 catches in that span.

In Weeks 9-18 of the 2024 season, Vikings tight ends combined for 61 receptions for 690 receiving yards and led the league in yards per catch (11.8 yards/reception) among teams that targeted their tight ends at least 70 times in that span.

During his time with the Panthers, Angelichio helped develop TEs Tommy Tremble and Ian Thomas. Tremble, a 2021 third-round pick (83rd overall) from Notre Dame, finished his rookie season with 20 receptions for 180 yards and a touchdown.

Angelichio's lone season in Washington overlapped with Vikings Head Coach Kevin O'Connell (Commanders offensive coordinator). Following an injury to TE Vernon Davis, Angelichio guided TE Jeremy Sprinkle to career highs in receptions (26), receiving yards (241) and touchdowns (one).

While with Green Bay, Angelichio coached Jared Cook (377) and Richard Rodgers (271) to a combined 648 receiving yards in 2016, becoming one of five NFC teams with two tight ends who posted more than 250 receiving yards.

In 2015, Angelichio worked with O'Connell (Browns quarterbacks coach) in current Vikings Assistant Head Coach Mike Pettine's second season of leading Cleveland.

As a player, Angelichio was a three-year starter at outside linebacker for St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, and he also served as team captain for its baseball team. Angelichio later received a master's degree at Ithaca College.

ANGELICHIO'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (LINEBACKER)
1991-94 St. Lawrence University

COACHING
1995 Secondary // SUNY-Brockport
1996-97 Linebackers // Ithaca College
1998 Wide Receivers // Ithaca College
1999 Offensive Line // Ithaca College
2000-05 Offensive Coordinator/Offensive Line // Ithaca College
2006 Offensive Assistant/Tight Ends // University of Pittsburgh
2007-10 Tight Ends // University of Pittsburgh
2011 Tight Ends // Rutgers
2012-13 Tight Ends // Tampa Bay Buccaneers
2014-15 Tight Ends // Cleveland Browns
2016-18 Tight Ends // Green Bay Packers
2019 Tight Ends // Washington Commanders
2020-21 Tight Ends // Carolina Panthers
2022- Tight Ends/Passing Game Coordinator // Minnesota Vikings

THAD BOGARDUS

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 12th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Thad Bogardus enters his third season with the Vikings in 2025 and first as outside linebackers coach after two seasons assisting inside linebackers.

In 2024, Bogardus helped linebackers Blake Cashman and Ivan Pace, Jr., to multiple career bests. Cashman recorded highs in tackles (111), sacks (4.5), QB pressures (24), QB hits (11) and passes defensed (8). Pace's 3.0 sacks and seven tackles for loss are his tops through two seasons.

Bogardus joined Minnesota after spending the past six seasons with the Los Angeles Rams, including coaching outside linebackers for L.A. in 2022.

As the assistant linebackers coach for the Rams during the 2021 season, Bogardus helped L.A. win Super Bowl LVI. He worked with a group of players that included Von Miller and Leonard Floyd. After combining for 21.5 sacks in the regular season, the outside linebackers added an additional 6.0 sacks during the team's championship run.

In Bogardus' lone season as assistant defensive line coach in 2020, DL Aaron Donald became the third player in league history to be named NFL Defensive Player of the Year three times.

In 2019, the Rams defensive front powered its way to 50 sacks, the fourth-highest total in the league. The unit also featured a stellar season from Donald, who earned Pro Bowl and First-Team All-Pro honors.

During the 2017 and 2018 seasons, Bogardus primarily worked with the defensive line. Donald twice led L.A. in sacks, including an NFL-best 20.5 sacks in 2018. Donald became the first Rams player to be named Defensive Player of the Year by *The Associated Press* in 2017 before becoming one of just three players in NFL history to win the award in consecutive seasons.

Prior to joining the Rams, Bogardus spent two seasons as a defensive coaching assistant for the Denver Broncos – helping the team win Super Bowl 50.

Bogardus' first year in the NFL was 2014 as the defensive quality control coach for the Buffalo Bills.

Prior to that, he was a defensive graduate assistant at Ball State University from 2012-13 and spent 2011 as a football operations graduate assistant.

A native of Redding, Connecticut, Bogardus graduated from Elon University in 2011. He and his wife, Lauren, have a daughter, Erika, and a son, Brooks.

BOGARDUS' BACKGROUND

COACHING

2011 Football Operations Graduate Assistant // Ball State
2012-13 Defensive Graduate Assistant // Ball State
2014 Defensive Quality Control // Buffalo Bills
2015-16 Defensive Coaching Assistant // Denver Broncos
2017-18 Defensive Quality Control // Los Angeles Rams
2019 Assistant Defensive Line/ Quality Control // Los Angeles Rams
2020 Assistant Defensive Line // Los Angeles Rams
2021 Assistant Linebackers // Los Angeles Rams
2022 Outside Linebackers // Los Angeles Rams
2023-24 Assistant Inside Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings
2025- Outside Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings

KEITH CARTER

ASSISTANT OFFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 13th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 1st Season

The Minnesota Vikings named Keith Carter assistant offensive line coach on Feb. 25, 2025. Carter brings two decades of coaching experience spanning the collegiate and professional ranks to Head Coach Kevin O'Connell's staff, including the past two seasons with the Jets.

During the 2024 season, Carter played an integral role in the development of rookie OL Olu Fashanu, who was selected by the Jets in the first round (11th overall) of the 2024 NFL Draft out of Penn State. Fashanu started seven of the 15 games he appeared in and only allowed one sack in 372 pass blocking snaps played, according to Pro Football Focus. He was the only rookie tackle to play at least 100 pass blocking snaps and allow no more than one sack during the 2024 regular season.

Despite playing an NFL-high 13 different starters on the offensive line in 2023 due to injury, Carter oversaw a unit that helped second-year RB Breece Hall record 1,585 yards from scrimmage, the fourth-most league wide.

Prior to joining the Jets, Carter spent five seasons (2018-22) with the Titans as the team's offensive line coach. During Carter's tenure, his offensive lines helped the Titans rank second in rushing yards per game, averaging 139.9 yards, trailing only the Ravens (170.8). Additionally, the team's 11,471 total rushing yards over the five-year span ranked second, while their 4.7 yards per carry was fourth best in the league. The Titans finished in the top 10 in the NFL in rushing yards per game in four of Carter's five seasons.

Carter spent three seasons with the Falcons from 2015-17, helping lead the team to an appearance in Super Bowl LI against the New England Patriots. The offensive line helped pave the way for Atlanta to finish fifth in the NFL in rushing in that 2016 season, averaging 120.5 yards per game.

Carter played tight end and fullback at UCLA from 2001-04 after his high school career at Downington, Pennsylvania. He is the grandson of Pro Football Hall of Fame DE Gino Marchetti, who played 13 seasons for the Baltimore Colts from 1953-66 following his rookie season with the Dallas Texans in 1952. Carter and his wife, Kristin, have two daughters, Kayla and Kamryn.

CARTER'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (TIGHT END/FULLBACK)

2001-04 UCLA

COACHING

2005 Graduate Assistant // UCLA
2006 Tight Ends // Wagner
2007-08 Offensive Line // Redlands
2009-11 Tight Ends ('09)/Offensive Line ('10-11) // San Diego
2012-13 Quality Control – Offense // Seattle Seahawks
2014 Offensive Line // San Jose State
2015-17 Assistant Offensive Line ('15-16) Running Backs ('17) // Atlanta Falcons
2018-22 Offensive Line // Tennessee Titans
2023-24 Offensive Line/Run Game Coordinator // New York Jets
2025- Assistant Offensive Line // Minnesota Vikings

RYAN CORDELL

GAME MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR/PASS GAME SPECIALIST

NFL EXPERIENCE: 12th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Ryan Cordell enters his fourth season with the Minnesota Vikings after spending three seasons (2019-21) with the Cleveland Browns as a research analyst and coaching assistant.

As the Vikings game management coordinator, Cordell continues to play a key role in helping the team become "situational masters." During the 2022 season, Cordell's first in Minnesota, the Vikings finished the regular season with an 11-0 record in one-score games after finishing 6-8 in those same situations the previous season. In 2024, Minnesota also boasted a 9-1 record in one-possession games in 2024, the second-best mark league wide trailing only the AFC Champion Kansas City Chiefs (11-0).

Cordell helped the 2024 Vikings go 14-3 and trail opponents for a league-low 3:31:56 combined in its 17 regular-season games. He also worked closely with Minnesota's tight ends.

With Cleveland in 2021, Cordell served as interim running backs coach for the final 10 games. He helped the Browns lead the NFL in rushing average with a 5.09 mark, the highest average by a Browns team since 1966. RB Nick Chubb finished second in the league in rushing yards en route to a Pro Bowl selection and being named a finalist for the FedEx NFL Ground Player of the Year.

In 2020, Cordell worked closely with the offensive line during his first season on the Browns coaching staff, helping the club finish third in the league in rushing with 148.4 yards per game (the team's best since 1978). Tackle Jack Conklin earned First-Team All-Pro honors, and guards Joel Bitonio and Wyatt Teller earned Second-Team honors.

Cordell spent five seasons (2014-18) with the San Francisco 49ers, serving as special assistant to the general manager during his final two seasons. While with the 49ers, Cordell worked with Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, Head Coach Kevin O'Connell and running backs/run game coordinator Curtis Modkins.

In 2016, Cordell was the team's football operations coordinator, assisting with internal projects across all football departments.

Cordell originally joined the 49ers in 2014 as a salary cap intern, assisting with various roster composition and salary allocation research.

Cordell graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a bachelor's in mathematics and a master's in business administration.

CORDELL'S BACKGROUND

2014 Salary Cap Intern // San Francisco 49ers
2015 Offensive Assistant // San Francisco 49ers
2016 Football Operations Coordinator // San Francisco 49ers
2017-18 Special Assistant to the GM // San Francisco 49ers
2019 Football Research Analyst // Cleveland Browns
2020-21 Coaching Assistant // Cleveland Browns
2022- Game Management Coordinator/Pass Game Specialist // Minnesota Vikings

MARCUS DIXON

DEFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 5th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 2nd Season

Marcus Dixon joined the Vikings in 2024, and his first defensive line helped limit opponents to an average of 93.4 rushing yards per game and just five runs of 20+ yards on the season, both of which ranked second in the NFL. The Vikings led the league in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tie for the league lead in takeaways (33).

In 2023, Dixon's defensive line helped the Broncos lead the NFL in fumble recoveries (15), the franchise's highest mark since 2007 (16). The defensive front also limited opponents to a third-down conversion rate of 33.17 percent, trailing only the Cleveland Browns (29.13 percent).

Additionally, Dixon oversaw rookie DE Zach Allen, who registered 23 quarterback hits and eight tackles for loss in 17 starts.

During Dixon's first season as a lead position coach in the NFL in 2022, Denver ranked seventh in total defense (320.0 yards/game) and 10th in rushing defense (109.8 yards/game). The defensive line totaled 15.5 of the team's 36 sacks.

Dixon started his NFL coaching career with the Los Angeles Rams in 2021, where he was the assistant defensive line coach while Kevin O'Connell was L.A.'s offensive coordinator. Under Dixon's guidance, the Rams allowed 103.2 rushing yards per game (sixth best in the NFL), and accumulated 50 sacks, the third-highest mark league wide.

That postseason, Los Angeles ranked first in rushing yards allowed per game (60.3) and sacks (12). In Super Bowl LVI, the Rams collected seven sacks – three by defensive linemen – in a 23-20 victory against the Cincinnati Bengals.

A four-year starter on the defensive line at Hampton University (2004-07), Dixon rejoined the Pirates in 2017, coaching the same position. He added the role of director of player development the following season before becoming the defensive ends coach and the recruiting coordinator in 2019.

Prior to coaching, Dixon was an undrafted free agent with the Dallas Cowboys in 2008. He then spent three seasons with the New York Jets (2010-12), compiling 21 tackles (15 solo), 2.5 sacks, one pass defensed, a forced fumble and a recovery in 22 games. While there, Dixon was teammates with O'Connell.

A native of Rome, Georgia, Dixon and his wife, Tesa (TEE-sa), have three children: Rhylee, Madylin and Zoë Olyvia.

DIXON'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (DEFENSIVE END)
2004-07 Hampton University
2010-12 New York Jets

COACHING
2017 Defensive Line // Hampton University
2018 Defensive Line/Director of Player Development // Hampton University
2019 Defensive Ends/Recruiting Coordinator // Hampton University
2021 Assistant Defensive Line // Los Angeles Rams
2022-23 Defensive Line // Denver Broncos
2024- Defensive Line // Minnesota Vikings

BEN ELLEFSON

OFFENSIVE ASSISTANT

NFL EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Ben Ellefson enters his fifth season with the Minnesota Vikings in 2025 and his third as a member of the club's coaching staff. Ellefson, who played three seasons in the NFL with both the Jacksonville Jaguars (2020) and Vikings (2021-22), joined Minnesota's coaching staff as an offensive assistant in 2023.

Ellefson worked closely with Vikings tight ends and assisted the Vikings offense that finished ninth in scoring (25.4 points per game) and sixth in passing offense (237.8 yards per game) during the 2024 season.

He helped TE Josh Oliver post single-season career highs in receiving yards (258) and receiving touchdowns (three) and tie his season best in receptions from 2023 (22). Upon the return of T.J. Hockenson in Week 9, Vikings tight ends combined for 61 receptions for 690 receiving yards and led the league in yards per catch (11.8 yards/reception) among teams that targeted their tight ends at least 70 times in that span.

During his first season in the NFL coaching ranks in 2023, Ellefson helped the Vikings rank in the top 10 in both total offense and passing yards per game. The team averaged 347.8 yards per game, the 10th most among all teams, and 256.4 passing yards per game, which ranked fifth in the league.

Ellefson entered the NFL as an undrafted free agent with the Jacksonville Jaguars in April of 2020. He spent his rookie season in Jacksonville, starting four of the seven games he played, before joining the Vikings for the 2021 and 2022 seasons. He saw action in nine games as a Viking, making one start, and caught three passes for 26 yards.

A native of Hawley, Minnesota, Ellefson spent his collegiate career at North Dakota State where he was part of the Bison program that went 57-3 in his four seasons playing, winning three-straight FCS national titles from 2017-19. A two-time All-Missouri Valley Football Conference honoree, Ellefson was a named a semifinalist for the Campbell Trophy as a senior in 2019.

ELLEFSON'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (TIGHT END)
2016-19 North Dakota State
2020 Jacksonville Jaguars
2021-22 Minnesota Vikings

COACHING
2023- Offensive Assistant // Minnesota Vikings

CHARLIE FRYE

DEFENSIVE ASSISTANT

NFL EXPERIENCE: 2nd Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 1st Season

The Minnesota Vikings named Charlie Frye a defensive assistant in March 2025. Frye, who played six seasons in the NFL as a quarterback from 2005-10, spent the past two seasons (2023-24) at Florida Atlantic University as the offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach.

During his first season at Florida Atlantic, Frye helped the Owls improve from 97th nationally in completion percentage in 2022 (57.4%) to 31st in 2023 (64.3%), despite starting QB Casey Thompson suffering a season-ending injury in Week 3.

Frye entered the NFL coaching ranks in 2021 with the Miami Dolphins as their quarterbacks coach, where he worked under Defensive Coordinator Brian Flores, who was the Dolphins head coach.

Following three seasons at Florida as a consultant and the director of player development (2015-17) and one season at Ashland University as wide receivers coach (2018), Frye was named the offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Central Michigan in 2019.

That season, Central Michigan led the MAC with 6,599 yards of total offense, including a conference-leading 3,816 passing yards, and averaged 30.9 points per game. Frye helped the Chippewas capture the MAC West Division title, earn a spot in the MAC Championship Game for the first time since 2009 and a berth in the New Mexico Bowl.

Frye served as a coach at Nike's Elite 11/The Opening Combine high school quarterback competitions from 2013-17.

Originally selected by Cleveland in the third round (67th overall) of the 2005 NFL Draft, Frye spent time with the Browns (2005-07), Seahawks (2007-08) and Raiders (2009-10). He appeared in 26 games, making 23 starts, and totaled 4,154 passing yards and 17 touchdowns, adding 347 rushing yards and four scores on 72 carries.

Frye played his collegiate career at Akron from 2001-04, starting 45 of the 46 games he played and setting school records in career completions (913), attempts (1,436), passing yards (11,049), touchdown passes (64) and completion percentage (63.6%). He also registered 429 rushing yards and 19 touchdowns on 375 rushing attempts. He was named MVP at the 2005 Senior Bowl.

A native of Willard, Ohio, Frye earned his bachelor's degree in exercise science. He and his wife, Lenette, have two sons and a daughter.

FRYE'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (QUARTERBACK)
2001-04 Akron University
2005-07 Cleveland Browns
2007-08 Seattle Seahawks
2009-10 Oakland Raiders

COACHING
2012-13 Offensive Coordinator // Jones High School (Florida)
2014-15 Offensive Coordinator // Wekiva High School (Florida)
2015-17 Consultant/Director of Player Development // Florida
2018 Wide Receivers // Ashland
2019-20 Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks // Central Michigan
2021 Quarterbacks // Miami Dolphins
2022 Offensive Analyst/Analytics Coordinator // Penn State
2023-24 Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks // Florida Atlantic
2025- Defensive Assistant // Minnesota Vikings

CHENZO FUNARI

QUALITY CONTROL - DEFENSE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 1st Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 2nd Season

Chenzo Funari enters his second season with the Minnesota Vikings in 2025 and his first as a member of the Vikings coaching staff.

Funari, who was named a defensive quality control coach in March of 2025, originally joined the Vikings in 2024 as a football quantitative methods associate. In his role, he assisted the player personnel, coaching and player performance staff by using a data-driven approach to identify useful metrics to improve analysis and projections.

Prior to coming to Minnesota, Funari spent the 2023 season working as a defensive analyst for the University of Connecticut. Funari served one season as running backs coach and recruiting coordinator for Northern Michigan in 2022 where he mentored a running backs unit that accounted for more than 2,550 all-purpose yards, 1,770 yards from scrimmage and 15 total touchdowns.

Under Funari's guidance, RB Tyshon King led the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Conference in rushing yards and yards from scrimmage (No. 12 nationally). King was the only Division II player in the country to have eight rushing touchdowns and five receiving touchdowns and was one of two players in the country to have 900+ rushing yards and 400+ receiving yards.

Funari began his coaching career in 2020 at Youngstown State, spending the 2020-21 seasons as a defensive quality control coach assisting the defensive backs. In 2020, Youngstown State finished No. 25 nationally in total defense and No. 11 in passing yards allowed. During the 2022 offseason, Funari transitioned to offensive quality control coach, working with the tight ends.

Funari began his professional career at SpaceX as an associate engineer. He graduated from Ohio State in 2017 with a degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering and received his master's at Purdue in aeronautical and astronautical engineering in 2019.

FUNARI'S BACKGROUND

COACHING/PERSONNEL

2020-21 Quality Control – Defense / Defensive Backs // Youngstown State
2022 Running Backs/Recruiting Coordinator // Northern Michigan
2023 Defensive Analyst // Connecticut
2024 Football Quantitative Methods Associate // Minnesota Vikings
2025 Quality Control – Defense // Minnesota Vikings

DALMIN GIBSON

ASSISTANT SPECIAL TEAMS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Dalmin Gibson in 2024 helped LS Andrew DePaola earn his third-consecutive berth to the Pro Bowl and become the first long snapper in NFL history to be selected to the Pro Bowl in three-straight seasons (2022-24). DePaola was also named to *The Associated Press'* All-Pro First Team for his performance in 2024, marking his third-consecutive All-Pro nod.

Gibson also played an integral role in the development of rookie K Will Reichard, who began his career 14-of-14 on field goal attempts, including four from 50+ yards. Reichard made eight field goals from 50+ yards, the second most in a season in franchise history (Blair Walsh, 10).

While Reichard and DePaola were on Injured Reserve during Weeks 10-13 of 2024, Gibson helped guide first-year K Parker Romo and veteran LS Jake McQuaide. Romo converted 11 of 12 field goals, including a long of 55 yards. In his NFL debut in Week 10 at Jacksonville, Romo went 4-for-4.

At Southern Illinois in 2022, Gibson helped SIU's defense finish sixth in the nation in rushing defense and seventh in sacks. Prior to his role at SIU, Gibson spent two seasons (2020-21) on the Michigan State staff as a special teams analyst.

Before three seasons at Colorado (2017-19), Gibson spent the 2015-16 seasons at his alma mater, Dickinson State University (North Dakota). As the special teams coordinator and linebackers coach, he helped the Blue Hawks win the conference and make playoff appearances in consecutive years. Dickinson State led the country in interceptions, ranked in the top 20 in scoring defense and ranked in the top five in sacks and TFLs during that time.

Gibson began his coaching career as a student coach at Dickinson State while he completed his degree after an injury ended his playing career. He graduated in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and exercise science and received his master's in sports management from Chadron State College in 2016.

The Rapid City, South Dakota, native graduated from Harding County High School in Buffalo, South Dakota, where he lettered in football and basketball. Gibson and his wife, Sammy, have a daughter, Rua, and son, Dune.

GIBSON'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (OUTSIDE LINEBACKER)

2010-12 Dickinson State

COACHING

2013 Outside Linebackers // Dickinson State
2014 Cornerbacks/Assistant Recruiting // Wayne State
2015-16 Special Teams Coordinator/Linebackers // Dickinson State
2017-19 Graduate Assistant – Defense // Colorado
2020-21 Defense/Special Teams Analyst // Michigan State
2022 Special Teams Coordinator/Defensive Ends // Southern Illinois
2023- Assistant Special Teams // Minnesota Vikings

PATRICK HILL

ASSISTANT OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Patrick Hill has a new role with the Vikings after spending his first two seasons with the team as its assistant defensive line coach.

In 2024, Minnesota's defensive line helped limit opponents to an average of 93.4 rushing yards per game and just five runs of 20+ yards on the season, both of which were the second-fewest marks in the NFL. The unit also played an integral role in the Vikings leading the league in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tie for the league lead in takeaways (33).

During his first season in the professional ranks, Hill helped the Vikings defense improve from its 31st overall ranking in 2022 to 16th in 2023, including posting top-eight rankings in both rushing yards allowed per play (fourth) and rushing yards allowed per game (eighth). The defensive line contributed to the Vikings allowing just two rushing attempts of 20+ yards in 2023, the fewest among all NFL teams.

In 2022, Hill helped coach an LSU defense that ranked among the best in the SEC. Under Hill, the Tigers had three defenders land spots on *The Associated Press'* All-SEC Team, including DE BJ Ojulari, who earned First-Team All-SEC honors.

Prior to his time at LSU, Hill served as the assistant defensive line coach at Birmingham-Southern College (2021). That season followed stints as defensive line coach with Upper Iowa (2020) and Central Oklahoma (2019).

In 2018, Hill spent a season at Angelo State University where he coached the National Defensive Player of the Year, Harlon Hill Trophy finalist and consensus All-American LB Markus Jones, who spent time with the Green Bay Packers and Baltimore Ravens.

Hill has also spent time at Morehead State, Ferrum College, James Madison, West Virginia State and Concordia-Ann Arbor during his career.

Hill got his coaching start at Concordia-Chicago in 2008, where he coached until 2012, helping them win the NATHC Championship in 2011. He also helped Adrian College to the 2012 MIAAC Championship.

The Shreveport, Louisiana, native earned an undergraduate degree in sports management and sociology (2010) and a graduate (2011) degree in sports leadership from Concordia-Chicago.

HILL'S BACKGROUND

COACHING

2008-11 Defensive Line // Concordia University-Chicago River Forest
2012-13 Defensive Line/J.V. Head Coach // Adrian College
2013-14 Defensive Line/Assistant Special Teams Coordinator // Concordia University-Ann Arbor
2014-15 Assistant Defensive Line // West Virginia State
2015 Assistant Defensive Line // James Madison
2015-16 Defensive Line/Assistant Strength & Conditioning // Ferrum College
2016-17 Defensive Line/Video Coordinator // Morehead State
2018 Defensive Quality Control/Linebackers // Eastern Michigan
2016 Defensive Line/Assistant Special Teams Coordinator/Video Coordinator // Angelo State
2019 Assistant Coach/Defensive Line // Central Oklahoma
2020 Defensive Line // Upper Iowa
2021-22 Defensive Line // Birmingham Southern
2022 Defensive Analyst // LSU
2023-24 Assistant Defensive Line // Minnesota Vikings
2025 Assistant Outside Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings

MICHAEL HUTCHINGS

SAFETIES

NFL EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Michael Hutchings enters his third season in the NFL and second as safeties coach in 2025. He was the Vikings assistant defensive backs coach in 2023.

In 2024, Hutchings' first as a position coach in the NFL, Minnesota's safeties helped the Vikings go 14-3 and lead the NFL in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tie for the league lead in takeaways (33). The unit also contributed to the Vikings ranking second in the NFL in opponent scoring efficiency (31.6%), opponent runs of at least 20 yards (five) and opponents' rushing yards per game (93.4).

Minnesota also recorded a takeaway in every regular season game in 2024 – the only team that season to do so – to break the previous franchise record of 16 games.

During his first season in the professional ranks, Hutchings helped the Vikings defense improve from its 31st overall ranking in 2022 to 16th in 2023, and lead the NFL with 22 forced fumbles, with defensive backs accounting for 14.

Hutchings coached at Western Kentucky (2022), Oregon (2021) and USC (2018-20) before joining the Vikings. During his time at USC, Hutchings helped lead a dramatic improvement in USC's defense from 2019 to 2020, with total yards allowed per game dropping from 408.7 to 369.7 and passing yards allowed per game falling from 246.2 to 216.3. The Trojans forced 16 turnovers in the shortened six-game 2020 season after totaling 16 in 13 games in 2019.

Additionally, Hutchings coached safety Talanoa Hufanga, who was named a consensus All-America First Teamer and Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year. Defensive lineman Marlon Tuipulotu, who made All-Pac-12 First Team in 2020.

The Concord, California, native played four seasons (2013-16) at inside linebacker for USC, making 15 starts. He recorded 118 tackles, including eight tackles for loss, 3.0 sacks, two passes defensed and one interception.

Hutchings received his bachelor's degree in communications from USC in 2017 and a master's degree in communication management.

HUTCHINGS' BACKGROUND

PLAYING (INSIDE LINEBACKER)

2013-16 Southern California

COACHING

2018-20 Defensive Assistant/Linebackers // Southern California
2021 Defensive Analyst // Oregon
2022 Outside Linebackers // Western Kentucky
2023 Assistant Defensive Backs // Minnesota Vikings
2024- Safeties // Minnesota Vikings

DARONTE JONES

PASSING GAME COORDINATOR/DEFENSIVE BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 9th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 5th Season

Daronte (duh-RAHN-tay) Jones, who was the Vikings defensive backs coach in 2020, returned to Minnesota in 2022 after serving as the defensive coordinator/defensive backs coach at LSU in 2021.

In 2024, Minnesota's defense led the NFL in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tied for the league lead in takeaways (33). The unit also helped the Vikings rank second in the NFL in opponent scoring efficiency (31.6%), opponent runs of at least 20 yards (five) and opponents' rushing yards per game (93.4).

Minnesota also was the only team to record a takeaway in every regular-season game in 2024, setting a new franchise record.

Under Jones in 2022, Harrison Smith tied his career high with five interceptions, and Minnesota's defensive backs ranked third in the NFL with 87 passes defensed.

While Jones led the Vikings defensive backs in 2020, the team ranked in the top 10 in the NFL in interceptions, and Jones helped Smith record five interceptions.

In 2016, Jones helped the Dolphins record 16 interceptions, which ranked third in the NFL that season.

Prior to the NFL, Jones served as defensive backs coach at the University of Wisconsin in 2015, and the Badgers led the nation with just seven passing touchdowns allowed.

From 2012-14, Jones served as the secondary coach at the University of Hawai'i, adding the title of assistant head coach in 2014. Jones helped improve Hawai'i's passing defense by 62.1 yards per game, as the Rainbow Warriors went from 85th nationally in 2011 to the 11th-best passing defense in 2012.

A native of Capital Heights, Maryland, Jones was named assistant head coach/defensive coordinator at Bowie State from 2005-09. His defense finished in the top three nationally in three of his five seasons.

Prior to his time at Bowie State, Jones served as defensive coordinator at two Louisiana high schools: Jeanerette (2004) and Franklin (2003). He also spent the 2002 season coaching safeties at Nicholls State after working as a graduate assistant at Lenoir-Rhyne in 2001.

Jones began his college playing career at Temple before transferring to Morgan State, where he earned a bachelor's degree.

JONES' BACKGROUND

PLAYING (DEFENSIVE BACK)
1996 Temple
1997-98 Morgan State (time shortened by injury)

COACHING
2001 Graduate Assistant // Lenoir-Rhyne
2002 Safeties // Nicholls State
2003 Defensive Coordinator // Franklin High School (Louisiana)
2004 Defensive Coordinator // Jeanerette High School (Louisiana)
2005-09 Assistant Head Coach/ Defensive Coordinator // Bowie State
2010 Defensive Graduate Assistant // UCLA
2011 Defensive Backs // Montreal Alouettes
2012-13 Secondary // Hawai'i
2014 Assistant Head Coach/Secondary // Hawai'i
2015 Defensive Backs // Wisconsin
2016-17 Assistant Defensive Backs // Miami Dolphins
2018-19 Secondary/Cornerbacks // Cincinnati Bengals
2020 Defensive Backs // Minnesota Vikings
2021 Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs // LSU
2022- Passing Game Coordinator/Defensive Backs // Minnesota Vikings

CHRIS KUPER

OFFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 10th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Chris Kuper (coo-pur) is entering his fourth season as Vikings offensive line coach.

Kuper navigated multiple changes to the Vikings offensive line throughout the course of the 2024 season, including filling a gap after a season-ending injury to Christian Darrisaw in Week 8. The Vikings acquired Cam Robinson via trade, and he made his Vikings debut just four days after arriving in Minnesota in Week 9.

During the 2024 season, Kuper's offensive line helped the Vikings finish ninth in scoring (25.4 points per game) and sixth in passing offense (237.8 yards per game). Minnesota was also 11-0 on the season when rushing for more yards than its opponent, and Aaron Jones, Sr., reached career highs in rushing attempts (255) and rushing yards (1,138).

Under Kuper's guidance, T Brian O'Neill was named to his second Pro Bowl following his performance in 2024. According to Pro Football Focus, O'Neill only allowed two sacks in 2024 (at L.A. Rams in Week 8, vs. Atlanta in Week 14). His 81.2 PFF grade for pass blocking was a single-season career best, topping his previous career-high grade of 77.9 from 2022.

In his second season with the Vikings in 2023, Kuper's offensive line contributed to the Vikings finishing the season fifth in the league in passing yards per game (256.4).

Kuper, who played eight seasons in the NFL, joined the Vikings staff after spending three seasons as the assistant offensive line coach with the Denver Broncos under Hall of Famer Mike Munchak.

Prior to his time in Denver, Kuper worked with the Miami Dolphins as the assistant offensive line coach (2017-18) under Chris Foerster (2017) and Jeremiah Washburn (2018) and as an offensive quality control assistant (2016).

Kuper started 79 of the 90 regular-season games he played for Denver at right or left guard. He was drafted in the fifth round (161st overall) of the 2006 NFL Draft out of North Dakota. Kuper and former Vikings TE Jim Kleinsasser (1999) are two of the last three players to be drafted out of North Dakota.

Kuper was a three-time captain for the Broncos and was the recipient of the Ed Block Courage Award in 2012. The native of Anchorage, Alaska, and his wife Cynthia have four children: Madeline, James, Anna and Alexandra.

KUPER'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (GUARD)
2001-05 North Dakota
2006-13 Denver Broncos

COACHING
2015 Offensive Line // Columbine High School
2016 Offensive Quality Control // Miami Dolphins
2017-18 Assistant Offensive Line // Miami Dolphins
2019-21 Assistant Offensive Line // Denver Broncos
2022- Offensive Line // Minnesota Vikings

KEENAN McCARDELL

WIDE RECEIVERS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 11th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 5th Season

Keenan McCardell, a two-time Pro Bowl receiver and two-time Super Bowl champion who played 17 seasons in the NFL (1991-2007), is in his fifth season with the Vikings.

Justin Jefferson, Jordan Addison and Jalen Nailor each finished 2024 with six-plus touchdown catches, the third such occurrence in team history. Jefferson and Addison became the seventh pair of teammates to post 130-plus yards and two-plus touchdowns in one game (Week 14 vs. Atlanta).

Jefferson garnered his fourth Pro Bowl selection and his second All-Pro First Team designation from *The Associated Press*. Jefferson became the first player in NFL history with 7,000 receiving yards in his first five NFL seasons.

Addison finished third in team history in receiving yards by a player in his first two seasons (1,786), trailing Jefferson (3,016 receiving yards) and Randy Moss (2,726) and tied for second with Sammy White for the most receiving touchdowns by a player in his first two years (19), behind Moss (28 touchdowns).

In 2022, McCardell helped Jefferson win NFL Offensive Player of the Year honors and become the first player in franchise history to lead the league in receptions (128) and yards (1,809), setting team single-season records.

McCardell joined Minnesota after coaching in Jacksonville for four seasons (2017-20). The 2019 Jaguars were one of three teams in the NFL with three receivers who each gained at least 650 yards through the air.

Before returning to the NFL, McCardell coached receivers at Maryland (2014-15), including former Viking Stefon Diggs.

McCardell launched his coaching career with Washington, the same franchise that selected him in the 12th round of the 1991 NFL Draft.

Although he didn't see the field that season, McCardell eventually played in 209 career NFL games with 168 starts, amassing 883 receptions for 11,373 yards and 63 touchdowns.

Despite only playing six seasons in Jacksonville, McCardell ranks second all-time in franchise history in receptions (499) and yards (6,393).

In his debut season in Tampa in 2002, the Bucs went 12-4 in the regular season en route to winning Super Bowl XXXVII over Oakland. McCardell caught both of Tampa Bay's scoring passes in the game.

McCardell and his wife Nicole have four children: daughters Keandra, Nia and Nakeeya', and son Keenan II.

McCARDELL'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (WIDE RECEIVER)
1987-90 UNLV
1991 Washington Commanders
1992-95 Cleveland Browns
1996-2001 Jacksonville Jaguars
2002-03 Tampa Bay Buccaneers
2004-06 San Diego Chargers
2007 Washington Commanders

COACHING
2010-11 Wide Receivers // Washington Commanders
2014-15 Wide Receivers // Maryland
2017-20 Wide Receivers // Jacksonville Jaguars
2021- Wide Receivers // Minnesota Vikings

JOSH McCOWN

QUARTERBACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 3rd Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 2nd Season

Josh McCown was named the Minnesota Vikings quarterbacks coach on Feb. 27, 2024. McCown, who played 18 NFL seasons at quarterback from 2002-20, spent the 2023 season with the Panthers as Carolina's quarterbacks coach.

In his first season with the Vikings in 2024, McCown helped QB Sam Darnold become the first quarterback in NFL history to record 14 wins in his first year with a team since at least 1950 when quarterback stats began being tracked. Darnold set career highs in nearly every passing category and finished fifth in the NFL in passing yards (4,319) and touchdown passes (35) and sixth in passer rating (102.5).

Darnold was selected to his first Pro Bowl and named PFWA's Most Improved Player and *Sporting News* Player of the Year. He was also tabbed the NFC Player of the Month in September and NFC Offensive Player of the Week for his Week 14 performance against Atlanta.

Before joining the Panthers coaching staff, McCown started coaching in 2010, volunteering for two seasons (2010-11) at Marvin Ridge High School in North Carolina while playing for the Hartford Colonials in the UFL. Then in 2019, while playing for the Eagles, McCown coached quarterbacks for Myers Park High School in North Carolina, where his sons, Owen and Aiden helped the team go 12-1. In 2020, McCown was an assistant coach at Rusk High School in Texas, where Owen and Aiden finished their high school careers.

Selected 81st overall by Arizona in the 2002 NFL Draft, McCown's playing career included time with 12 teams. McCown totaled 17,731 career passing yards and 98 touchdowns on 1,584-of-2,633 attempts (60.2 percent) in 102 games (76 starts). He added 1,106 rushing yards and 13 touchdowns on 248 carries. With the Browns in 2015, McCown was coached by Kevin O'Connell.

McCown played collegiately at SMU for three seasons (1998-2000) before finishing with Sam Houston State University in 2001, where he set single-season school records in completions (259), passing yards (3,481) and touchdowns (32) and was named Southland Football League Player of the Year.

A native of Jacksonville, Texas, McCown and his wife Natalie have four children: Owen, Aiden, Bridget and Aubrey. Both Owen (Texas-San Antonio) and Aiden (Lamar University) play quarterback.

McCOWN'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (QUARTERBACK)
1998-2000 SMU
2001 Sam Houston State
2002-05 Arizona Cardinals
2006 Detroit Lions
2007 Oakland Raiders
2008 Miami Dolphins
2008-09 Carolina Panthers
2010 Hartford Colonials (UFL)
2011 San Francisco 49ers
2011-13 Chicago Bears
2014 Tampa Bay Buccaneers
2015-16 Cleveland Browns
2017-18 New York Jets
2019 Philadelphia Eagles

COACHING
2010-11 Quarterbacks // Marvin Ridge High School (North Carolina)
2019 Quarterbacks // Myers Park High School (North Carolina)
2020 Assistant Coach // Rusk High School (Texas)
2023 Quarterbacks // Carolina Panthers
2024- Quarterbacks // Minnesota Vikings

CURTIS MODKINS

RUNNING GAME COORDINATOR/RUNNING BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 18th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Curtis Modkins is in his fourth season with the Minnesota Vikings as running backs/run game coordinator and 31st year coaching in 2025. Before joining the Vikings in 2022, he served as the running backs coach for the Broncos for four seasons (2018-21).

In 2024, the Vikings went 11-0 when the team finished with more rushing yards than their opponents, and the team's 267-yard rush differential tied for 10th in the NFL. Modkins coached Aaron Jones, Sr., to career highs in rushing attempts (255) and rushing yards (1,138), and Jones also notched five rushing touchdowns, his most in a season since scoring nine in 2020. In Week 16 at Seattle, Jones cracked the 1,000-yard rushing threshold, becoming just the third Viking to do so in his first season with the team, joining Chester Taylor (2006) and Adrian Peterson (2007).

Modkins has been with seven previous teams since his start in the NFL in 2008, primarily serving as a running backs coach but has offensive coordinator experience with the Buffalo Bills (2010-12) and San Francisco 49ers (2016), overlapping that season with Vikings GM Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Head Coach Kevin O'Connell.

During the 2021 season in Denver, Modkins helped guide RB Melvin Gordon III (918) and rookie RB Javonte Williams (903) to 900-plus-yard seasons, becoming the first running back duo since Houston Texans RBs Arian Foster (1,224) and Ben Tate (942) in 2011 to accomplish this feat.

Led by Gordon and Phillip Lindsay, the Broncos nearly rushed for 2,000 yards in 2020. Under Modkins, Lindsay rushed for 1,011 yards in 2019 and 1,037 in 2018, making him the first undrafted player in NFL history to top the 1,000-yard mark in consecutive seasons to start his career.

As the run game coordinator/running backs coach for the Lions in 2013-15, Modkins oversaw the production of Reggie Bush and Joique Bell, helping the players become the first backfield duo in NFL history to each register 500 rushing yards and 500 receiving yards in the same season (2013).

A native of Marlin, Texas, Modkins played football at TCU (1989-92) and finished his career with the third-most rushing yards in school history (2,763).

MODKINS' BACKGROUND

PLAYING (RUNNING BACK)
1989-92 TCU

COACHING
1996 Secondary // TCU
1997 Tight Ends // TCU
1998-2001 Cornerbacks // New Mexico
2002 Defensive Backs // Georgia Tech
2003-07 Running Backs // Georgia Tech
2008 Running Backs // Kansas City Chiefs
2009 Running Backs // Arizona Cardinals
2010-12 Offensive Coordinator/Running Backs // Buffalo Bills
2013-15 Run Game Coordinator/Running Backs // Detroit Lions
2016 Offensive Coordinator // San Francisco 49ers
2017 Running Backs // Chicago Bears
2018-21 Running Backs // Denver Broncos
2022- Running Game Coordinator/Running Backs // Minnesota Vikings

DERRON MONTGOMERY

QUALITY CONTROL - OFFENSE

NFL EXPERIENCE: 4th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Derron Montgomery is in his fourth season in the NFL as an offensive quality control assistant with the Vikings in 2025 after previously serving as a senior offensive analyst for the University of Arizona.

Montgomery assisted the Vikings offense that finished ninth in scoring (25.4 points per game) and sixth in passing offense (237.8 yards per game) in 2024.

In his second season with the Vikings in 2023, Montgomery contributed to the Vikings finishing the season in the top 10 in both total offense and passing yards per game. The team averaged 347.8 yards per game, the 10th most among all teams, and 256.4 passing yards per game, which ranked fifth in the league.

In 2022, Montgomery helped the Vikings offense finish seventh in the league in total offense (361.5) and sixth in passing yards per game (263.8).

Prior to his time with the Wildcats, Montgomery spent time at the University of Georgia as the assistant director of player development from 2018-20.

Montgomery served as an assistant head coach with Abilene Christian, working with the fullbacks and tight ends from 2016-17 after his time as the offensive coordinator for New Mexico Highlands in 2016.

In his time with Michigan as the wide receivers coach in 2015, he helped Michigan to a 10-3 record.

Montgomery began his coaching career as a student assistant coach at Abilene Christian from 2010-12.

From January to February in 2012, Montgomery worked with the Baltimore Ravens as a postseason volunteer, where he assisted Wilbert Montgomery, his father and Ravens running backs coach who played nine NFL seasons (eight with the Eagles and one with the Lions). He ranks second all-time in Eagles rushing yards (6,538) and third in rushing touchdowns (45).

The Cleveland Browns (2014) and Baltimore Ravens (2015) provided Montgomery with additional opportunities as a training camp volunteer.

A native of Garland, Texas, Montgomery played wide receiver at Iowa State from 2006-09 before his playing career ended due to an injury in 2009. He then transferred to Abilene Christian where he obtained his bachelor's in criminal justice. Montgomery also has his master's in arts and liberal studies from the University of Miami.

MONTGOMERY'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (WIDE RECEIVER)
2006-09 Iowa State

COACHING
2010-12 Student Assistant Coach // Abilene Christian
2012-13 Intern Coaching Assistant // University of Miami
2013-14 Assistant Wide Receivers // University of Miami
2015 Wide Receivers // Michigan
2016 Offensive Coordinator // New Mexico Highlands
2016-17 Assistant Coach – Fullbacks/Tight Ends // Abilene Christian
2018-19 Quality Control - Offense // Georgia
2020 Assistant Director of Player Development // Georgia
2021 Senior Offensive Analyst // University of Arizona
2022- Quality Control – Offense // Minnesota Vikings

CHRIS O'HARA

SENIOR OFFENSIVE ASSISTANT

NFL EXPERIENCE: 12th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Chris O'Hara is in his fourth season as the Vikings quarterbacks coach and second in his current role.

In 2024, O'Hara helped the Vikings finish ninth in scoring (25.4 points per game) and sixth in passing offense (237.8 yards per game) by overseeing the scout team. Minnesota was 9-1 in one-possession games in 2024, which trailed only the Chiefs (11-0).

As quarterbacks coach in 2023, O'Hara navigated a season in which Minnesota started four different quarterbacks for the first time in franchise history. Minnesota won three consecutive games with a different starting QB in Weeks 8-10 (Kirk Cousins, Jaren Hall and Joshua Dobbs).

O'Hara contributed to Cousins finishing the 2022 regular season with the fourth-most passing yards (4,457) and completions (424). Cousins also tied for the fifth-most passing touchdowns (29) in 2022.

Prior to his hire in Minnesota, O'Hara was an offensive assistant during the 2021 season for the Rams, helping Los Angeles win Super Bowl LVI.

O'Hara assisted in QB Matthew Stafford's first season with the team in which the QB threw for the third-most passing yards (4,886) and second-most touchdowns (41).

In his first year as offensive assistant, O'Hara helped Cooper Kupp win the triple crown by leading the NFL in receptions (145), receiving yards (1,947) and receiving touchdowns (16), earning First-Team All-Pro and NFL Offensive Player of the Year honors from *The Associated Press*, as well as a Pro Bowl selection.

O'Hara spent the 2020 season with the Jaguars after working for three seasons with Jay Gruden in Washington (2017-19) as an offensive quality control coach. Vikings Head Coach Kevin O'Connell overlapped with O'Hara in each of those three seasons.

Prior to his time in Washington, O'Hara worked as an offensive coaching assistant with the Jaguars from 2014-16.

Before entering the NFL ranks, O'Hara spent three seasons coaching on the defensive side of the ball at the University of Miami from 2011-13.

Prior to working at Miami, O'Hara spent two seasons at Temple University, serving as a student assistant with the school's football team.

A native of Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, O'Hara graduated from the University of Miami in December 2012 with a degree in sports administration. He and his wife Cynthia married in 2019 and have a son, Lincoln.

O'HARA'S BACKGROUND

2009-10 Student Assistant // Temple
2011-12 Student Assistant // University of Miami
2013 Graduate Assistant // University of Miami
2014-16 Offensive Coaching Assistant // Jacksonville Jaguars
2017-19 Offensive Quality Control // Washington Commanders
2020 Offensive Assistant // Jacksonville Jaguars
2021 Offensive Assistant // Los Angeles Rams
2022-23 Quarterbacks // Minnesota Vikings
2024- Senior Offensive Assistant // Minnesota Vikings

HENRY SCHNEIDER IV

ASSISTANT TO THE HEAD COACH

NFL EXPERIENCE: 10th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 2nd Season

The Minnesota Vikings named Henry Schneider IV assistant to the head coach on Feb. 23, 2024. Prior to joining the Vikings, Schneider spent five seasons with the Raiders (2019-23).

Schneider, who assists Kevin O'Connell with all administrative needs, capped off his first season in Minnesota with O'Connell being named the 2024 Coach of the Year by *The Associated Press* following the Vikings 14-3 regular season performance and playoff appearance.

Schneider spent two seasons as manager of coaching operations for the Raiders (2022-23), following one year as football operations coordinator (2021) and two years as football operations assistant (2019-20). During his time with the Raiders, Schneider assisted with aspects of the head coach's agenda, including day-to-day football operations and coaching administrative needs.

Prior to joining the Raiders, Schneider spent two seasons with the Seattle Seahawks as a football operations/equipment intern in 2016 and 2018. In between seasons with the Seahawks, Schneider served as a football operations staff assistant with the Miami Dolphins in 2017.

A native of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Schneider began his professional career as an operations intern with the National Football Foundation in Irving, Texas.

He earned his bachelor's degree in exercise science and his master's degree in sport management from the University of Alabama, where he worked four seasons (2012-15) as a student manager for the football program under Head Coach Nick Saban. During his time with the Crimson Tide, Alabama won a pair of national championships, three SEC Championships and made two appearances in the College Football Playoff.

SCHNEIDER'S BACKGROUND

2012-15 Student Manager // Alabama
2016 Football Ops/Player Personnel/Equipment Ops Intern // Seattle Seahawks
2017 Football Ops Staff Assistant // Miami Dolphins
2018 Football Ops Intern // Seattle Seahawks
2019-20 Football Ops Assistant // Las Vegas Raiders
2021 Football Ops Coordinator // Las Vegas Raiders
2022-23 Manager of Coaching Ops // Las Vegas Raiders
2024- Assistant to the Head Coach // Minnesota Vikings

MIKE SIRAVO

INSIDE LINEBACKERS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 6th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 3rd Season

Mike Siravo helped Minnesota's inside linebackers play an integral role in the Vikings going 14-3 in 2024. Minnesota's defense led the NFL in interceptions (24), passes defensed (95), opponent fourth-down conversion percentage (37.1%) and interceptions per attempt (3.8%) and tied for the league lead in takeaways (33).

Blake Cashman registered single-season career highs in tackles (111), sacks (4.5), QB pressures (24), QB hits (11) and passes defensed (8). Ivan Pace, Jr., had a career-high 3.0 sacks and seven tackles for loss. He also recorded an interception and returned a fumble recovery for a touchdown in his sophomore season.

In his first season in Minnesota, Siravo helped the Vikings defense improve from 31st overall in 2022 to 16th in 2023.

With Carolina in 2022, Siravo served as the defensive run game coordinator and coached a run defense that finished 12th in the NFL in rushing average (4.27), fourth in total tackles (1,078) and tied for eighth in tackles for loss (88).

Siravo spent three years (2017-19) as Baylor's linebackers coach and special teams coordinator. During the 2019 campaign at Baylor, Siravo's linebackers anchored a defense that finished second in takeaways (30), third in interceptions (17), eighth in sacks per game (3.31), and fifth in turnover margin (1.08).

During Siravo's time with the Temple Owls, linebackers Avery Williams and Stephaun Marshall both earned 2016 All-AAC honors. Siravo was named the 2016 National Linebackers Coach of the Year by FootballScoop a year after coaching two-time All-American and 2015 Bednarik Award and Nagurski Trophy winner Tyler Matakevich, who also won AAC Defensive Player of the Year honors.

Siravo began his career as a graduate assistant at Boston College from 1998-2000. The former walk-on earned a scholarship and lettered two years at linebacker under head coaches Dan Henning and Tom O'Brien. He earned Academic All-Big East honors as a senior.

A native of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Siravo earned a bachelor's degree in history from Boston College in 1998. He also earned a master's degree from his alma mater in administrative studies of business in 2000. He and his wife, Alison, are the parents of their three children: William, Evelyn and Henry.

SIRAVO'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (LINEBACKER)
1996-97 Boston College

COACHING
1998-2000 Graduate Assistant // Boston College
2003-05 Linebackers // Columbia University
2006 Recruiting Coordinator // Temple
2007-12 Defensive Backs // Boston College
2013-16 Linebackers // Temple
2017-19 Linebackers // Baylor
2020 Linebackers // Carolina Panthers
2021-22 Senior Defensive Assistant/ Linebackers // Carolina Panthers
2023- Inside Linebackers // Minnesota Vikings

TONY SORRENTINO

ASSISTANT WIDE RECEIVERS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 8th Season **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 4th Season

Tony Sorrentino in 2024 helped Justin Jefferson, Jordan Addison and Jalen Nailor become the third trio in team history to record at least six touchdowns apiece in one season.

Addison and Jefferson became the first Vikings receiving duo to each record 100+ receiving yards and at least two touchdowns in a game in franchise history with their performances in Week 14 vs. Atlanta. They were just the seventh pair of teammates in NFL history to each have 130+ receiving yards and 2+ touchdowns in a game.

Sorrentino contributed to Jefferson earning his fourth Pro Bowl selection and second *Associated Press* First-Team All-Pro honor. Jefferson also became the first player in NFL history with 7,000 receiving yards in his first five NFL seasons.

Addison has totaled 1,786 receiving yards and 19 touchdowns in his first two seasons. He finished third in team history in receiving yards by a player in his first two seasons, trailing Jefferson (3,016 receiving yards) and Randy Moss (2,726) and tied for second with Sammy White for the most receiving touchdowns by a player in his first two years, behind Moss (28 touchdowns).

In 2022, Sorrentino assisted Jefferson on the way to the receiver winning NFL Offensive Player of the Year honors and becoming the first player in franchise history to lead the league in receptions (128) and yards (1,809), setting team single-season records.

Prior to coming to Minnesota, Sorrentino helped coach Northern Illinois to a 9-5 record in 2021, beating Kent State 41-23 in the MAC Championship Game.

Prior to his time at NIU, Sorrentino spent the 2018 season as the director of football operations at Florida Atlantic.

In addition to working at FAU and the University of Minnesota, Sorrentino had stops at the University of Miami (2011), Tennessee (2017), and his alma mater, The College of New Jersey (2007 & 2012).

Sorrentino previously coached four NFL seasons with Jacksonville (2013-16) where he assisted Jaguars receivers.

After playing receiver for four seasons at The College of New Jersey, Sorrentino continued his time on the sidelines as a high school coach for two seasons before returning to his alma mater.

Sorrentino and his wife Kara have three children: a daughter, Marea, and sons, Anthony, Jr., and Luca.

SORRENTINO'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (WIDE RECEIVER)
2001-04 The College of New Jersey

COACHING
2005 Wide Receivers/Defensive Backs/Long Snappers // Morristown Beard High School (New Jersey)
2006 Wide Receivers/Defensive Backs/Long Snappers // West Essex High School (New Jersey)
2007 Linebackers // The College of New Jersey
2008 Tight Ends/Defensive Ends/Kickers // Montville Township High School (New Jersey)
2009 Offensive Quality Control // University of Minnesota
2010 Quarterbacks // University of Minnesota
2011 Offensive Graduate Assistant // University of Miami
2012 Quarterbacks/Pass Game Coordinator // The College of New Jersey
2013-16 Assistant Wide Receivers // Jacksonville Jaguars
2017 Wide Receivers Analyst // University of Tennessee
2018 Director of Football Operations // Florida Atlantic
2019-20 Tight Ends/Fullbacks // Northern Illinois
2021 Pass Game Coordinator/Wide Receivers // Northern Illinois
2022- Assistant Wide Receivers // Minnesota Vikings

BACON THE WRIGHT WAY.
WRIGHT BRAND
IS W 22

#1 THICK-CUT*

THICKER THAN AN ENTIRE OFFENSIVE LINE

BACON

*2024, Nielsen IQ-Retail Management, branded product based on sales.

© 2025 Tyson Foods, Inc. Trademarks and registered trademarks are owned by Tyson Foods, Inc. or its subsidiaries, or used under license.

JORDAN TRAYLOR

ASSISTANT OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/ASSISTANT QUARTERBACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE: 5th Season (as a coach) **VIKINGS EXPERIENCE:** 1st Season

The Minnesota Vikings named Jordan Traylor assistant offensive coordinator/assistant quarterbacks coach on March 18, 2025. Traylor, who spent the past two seasons (2023-24) with the New Orleans Saints as an offensive assistant, brings seven years of coaching experience spanning the collegiate and professional ranks to Head Coach Kevin O'Connell's staff.

During the 2024 season, Traylor primarily worked with Saints quarterbacks. He helped QB Derek Carr finish in the top 10 in the NFL in both completion percentage (67.7%) and passer rating (101.0), despite missing seven games due to injuries. Traylor also assisted in the development of rookie QB Spencer Rattler and second-year QB Jake Haener in 2024. Rattler started six of the seven games he played in Carr's absence, while Haener saw action in eight matchups, starting one.

In his first season as an offensive assistant in New Orleans in 2023, Traylor worked closely with the tight ends, helping guide the position group. Totaling a career-high 692 yards from scrimmage, TE/QB Taysom Hill experienced his most impactful season as a pass catcher under Traylor's guidance, recording single-season career highs in receptions (33) and receiving yards (291).

Traylor originally joined the Saints as a scouting assistant in 2019, spending two seasons in the personnel department prior to transitioning to the coaching staff as a defensive assistant for the 2021 and 2022 seasons. He began his coaching career as an offensive graduate assistant at the University of Texas in 2016, spending two seasons with the Longhorns working with both quarterbacks and receivers. In 2018, Traylor served as an offensive analyst at the University of Arkansas where he helped coach the quarterbacks.

A native of Gilmer, Texas, Traylor played quarterback at Mississippi College (2012-13) before transferring to Texas A&M for the final two seasons of his collegiate career (2014-15).

TRAYLOR'S BACKGROUND

PLAYING (QUARTERBACK)

2012-13 Mississippi College
2014-15 Texas A&M

COACHING

2016-17 Offensive Graduate Assistant // Texas
2018 Offensive Analyst // Arkansas
2019-20 Scouting Assistant // New Orleans Saints
2021-22 Defensive Assistant // New Orleans Saints
2023-24 Offensive Assistant // New Orleans Saints
2025- Assistant Offensive Coordinator/ Assistant Quarterbacks // Minnesota Vikings

RINGTHEBELL.ZZ on Archive.org

WHEN THE BLITZ IS ON, TRUST ANDERSEN

ONE-HANDED OPERATION
MODERN AND TRADITIONAL HARDWARE SETS
DURABLE ALUMINUM FRAME
WIDE-OPEN ABILITY WITH RETRACTABLE INSECT SCREEN
8 COLOR PACKAGES
AVAILABLE AT THE HOME DEPOT
EASY INSTALL PLAYBOOK (YS MIN)

4000 & 3000 SERIES STORM DOORS

Protecting your front door is no job for the practice squad. When the weather's bringing the pressure, Andersen® storm doors are an all-pro line of protection. Durable, dependable, and ready to perform season after season.

ANDERSEN WINDOWS & DOORS

TRUST YOUR HOME TO ANDERSEN™

Choose your design

SCAN HERE

Andersenhomedepot.com/stormdoors

All trademarks where denoted are marks of their respective owners.
©2025 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. 6/25

HEALTH & PERFORMANCE STAFF

MATT DUHAMEL
Director of Sports Medicine

DAVID JANTZI
Assistant Athletic Trainer/ Physical Therapist

CONNOR WHICKER
Associate Head Athletic Trainer

LEXUS BLUNT
Assistant Athletic Trainer

RASHARD HAMMONDS
Assistant Athletic Trainer

JOE DISTOR JR.
Head Strength Coach

MARQUIS JOHNSON
Assistant Performance Coach

CHAD BARI
Assistant Performance Coach

DAN RIDENOUR
Assistant Strength Coach/ Head of Applied Sports Science

BEN HAWKINS
Head Performance Dietitian

VIKINGS EQUIPMENT STAFF

MIKE PARSON
Director of Equipment Services

ADAM GROENE
Assistant Equipment Manager

TERRELL BARNES
Assistant Equipment Manager

KYLE DeLAURA
Equipment Assistant

BLAKE SCHROEDER
Equipment Assistant

Legends and current Vikings Andrew DePaola, C.J. Ham, Justin Jefferson, Brian O'Neill and Harrison Smith helped surprise former Equipment Manager Dennis Ryan, who served 47 years, with the November 2023 dedication of the Dennis Ryan Equipment Room at Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center.

Fresh Step

30 DAY ODOR CONTROL GUARANTEED*

RING THE BELL
on Archive.org

*Original receipt/UPC required and request must be submitted within 60 days of purchase for refund.
For full terms and instructions, go to freshstep.com/guarantee

NFLPA REPORT CARDS

VIKINGS CONTINUE EARNING HIGH MARKS

The Vikings earned the second-best marks on the 2025 NFLPA Report Cards that were announced by the NFL Players Association in February. The third-annual survey compiled feedback and data from 1,695 players this year across a telling, full spectrum of categories, including their club's treatment of families, food/cafeteria offerings and head coach and owner impacts.

It was the second consecutive year in which Minnesota ranked No. 2 overall behind the Miami Dolphins. The Vikings ranked No. 1 overall the first year the report cards were issued.

"Minnesota maintains its No. 2 ranking, continuing to have top-of-the-line facilities, a highly regarded coach and owner, and a helpful support staff," the NFLPA wrote in its breakdown of teams. "Despite already receiving high grades, they made additional improvements since the prior survey – most notably in the training staff, which saw its grade rise from a B to an A, the second highest in the league."

According to the 2025 index, the Vikings received A- or better in 10 of 11 categories and an A-plus in the following four categories: treatment of families, locker room, head coach and ownership. The former two slots were first overall while the latter two were third, behind Washington and Atlanta and Miami and Atlanta, respectively.

"When asked what the team does best, players overwhelmingly praise how the organization cares for them and their families," the NFLPA noted of Minnesota, which was the lone franchise with an A-plus grade in that space. "The Vikings have been the gold standard when it comes to treatment of families."

Minnesota Head Coach Kevin O'Connell and the Wilf family ownership group were viewed glowingly, too. Players scored the Wilf family's willingness to invest in facilities at 9.83 out of 10 points, which ranked second overall.

Ownership also was credited by players for significantly adding to a positive team culture and being extremely committed to building a competitive team.

O'Connell was deemed by his players to be highly receptive to locker room feedback on the team's needs, and "94% of Vikings players feel Kevin O'Connell is efficient with their time."

The survey, which contained closed-ended and optional open-ended questions, revealed that Vikings players also were overwhelmingly happy with the weight room (A-minus; 10th overall), food/dining area (A-minus; 9th), training room (A-minus; 4th) and strength coaches and team travel (A; 2nd and 3rd).

Additionally, Minnesota's worst rating – a B-plus for nutritionist/dietitian – was 15th and above average.

The Falcons, Raiders and Chargers were tabbed as the best destinations, if you will, after Minnesota.

The report cards, determined exclusively by the players, were introduced in 2023 to act as a "Free Agency Guide" that's intended to highlight which clubs are excelling in applicable areas and help raise

awareness about potential improvements of conditions or practices for the lower-performing teams.

All evaluations were anonymous and designed to capture players' experiences at their workplace.

Ultimately, it's the NFLPA's goal to educate its membership and drive action for the league's betterment.

The survey was expanded to 11 categories in 2024 after starting with eight. For followers of the division, here's the overall rank of the other NFC North clubs: Green Bay (7th), Detroit (9th) and Chicago (14th).

For Minnesota, whose 2024 game-day experience was pegged No. 1 overall in the "Voice of the Fan" survey, the report cards offer further affirmation that what has been built is highly conducive to success.

The bottom line is the Vikings are consistently and superiorly elevating NFL club standards.

HITTING ANOTHER LEVEL

HARRISON SMITH RETURNS TO VIKINGS FOR YEAR 14

BY LINDSEY YOUNG

There wasn't much hemming and hawing by The Hitman.

Harrison Smith told Twin Cities media members that it didn't take as long for him to decide on a 14th season as it did the previous spring. Even as early as Minnesota's postseason loss to the Rams, he had the pull to return.

"I kind of had a feeling," he said. "I was like, 'It's probably not the last time I'll put on pads.'"

There's simply unfinished business.

In Head Coach Kevin O'Connell's first three seasons at the helm, he's built a foundation that Smith noted includes a strong locker room culture and deeply talented roster.

Now it's time to dial it up a notch.

"There's a foundation that's been set that, you can notice it – things operate pretty smoothly, and the people here are giving high-level effort and winning a lot of ball games," Smith said. "But there's another level that we need to get to, and in this business, you have to do it right now.

"It's not like, 'Oh, you know, year one was good. Let's just keep trying.'" Smith continued, imitating a timid, soft-spoken voice. "It's got to happen right now. I think moving forward, that emphasis of, 'Turn it up a little bit to a level we haven't been before' – that is necessary to get where we want to go."

If anyone has perspective on the Vikings preparedness to take it to the next level, it's a player of Smith's caliber with 192 regular-season games under his belt.

Those who know him understand Smith isn't the type to preach at younger players or hold his experience over their heads. But he won't shy away from organically imparting wisdom, either.

Smith referenced the varying processes, philosophies and success rates from teams over his 13 seasons in purple, including "the ones that have been always ready to strike." He's taken proverbial notes, and he's seen what it takes to find success.

"I haven't won a Super Bowl, so do I have the credibility to speak on that? [But] I know how to win, that's for sure," he said. "I think there's a balance, as a guy in my position, whether it's advice or whatever, I'm always trying to figure out a better way to do stuff.

"I don't have all the answers, but I have a couple," Smith added.

And it's a big part of the reason O'Connell, Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Defensive Coordinator Brian Flores are so grateful to have The Hitman hanging around.

Adofo-Mensah spoke with media members in April and said it's tough to articulate just how invaluable it is to have Smith in the building; O'Connell echoed those thoughts the following week and joked he could hold an entire press conference to cover Smith's impact on him as a young head coach.

O'Connell called him a "major pillar" of the team, as well as an extra resources for coaches.

"I consider him somebody I wholeheartedly trust with our team, and his interpretation of how I'm reaching the team," O'Connell said. "He means the world. I think when you look at some of those impactful veteran guys we brought back – Harrison Smith, Aaron Jones, Byron Murphy, these guys that really want to be a part of the team and really want to ... continue to chase what we're all here chasing – these are the right kind of guys to do it with, and it starts with Harry."

Smith also commented on the benefit of re-signing Murphy and Jones, two players who add to the roster's experience and high character, as well as the multiple additions Adofo-Mensah and O'Connell brought in during the offseason.

"There's a lot of good people in this organization, and guys who do it the right way," Smith said. "That doesn't mean, like, just a bunch of nice guys. It means guys who come in and put in work and do it to win and to elevate others around them.

"But there's another level that we need to get to, and in this business, you have to do it right now."

– HARRISON SMITH

"It's not like a kumbaya session," he quipped, "which I think gets confused sometimes."

It may not be all roses and rainbows, but for Smith, putting in work for respected teammates and coaches is well worth the daily grind.

This season will mark his third with "Coach Flo'," whom Smith said has already floated the idea of coming back for *another* campaign in 2026.

"He was already, like, 'Maybe 15 years,' " laughed Smith. "But playing for Flo' is a blast, and it's very demanding, physically and mentally. But ... that was another thing that made it easier to come back, is to the day-to-day, especially with Flo' and how we do things. It's just super productive and thoughtful, as far as how we're attacking, and that's the stuff I enjoy."

LOOKING SHARP

When Smith returned this spring to Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center to sign his contract, he was decked out in a black suit-and-tie combo, which contrasted with past instances of putting pen to paper.

Turns out, Vikings Executive Vice President of Football Operations Rob Brzezinski was the motivator.

"Rob kind of roasted me for my outfit [last year]," Smith quipped, "which is why I'm wearing a suit today."

Because when Smith arrived at the same TCO Studios a year ago, having opted to return to the Vikings for a 13th season, he wore a white crewneck sweatshirt and cream-colored baseball cap.

"I had been at Dollywood with my family," Smith explained. "I didn't realize I had to come back [to Minnesota]. I guess I hadn't really done it before where I [had become] a free agent, so I had to come back for the physical.

"I think I left Dollywood and drove to the airport and came right here and wasn't exactly ready for it," he added with a laugh.

"I consider him somebody I wholeheartedly trust with our team, and his interpretation of how I'm reaching the team."

– HEAD COACH KEVIN O'CONNELL

During Smith's contract signing, he was taken down memory lane by being shown a series of photos. He quickly realized they were a collection of photos from days he had signed his first Vikings contract in 2012 and new ones in 2016, 2021 and 2024.

"Is this all the signings I've done?" he asked with a laugh.

As he reflected, he thought about the relationships with people in the organization and fans who have supported him for so long.

"Days like that, the spotlight might be on me, but it's pretty cool to be in an organization this long and create the relationships that come with that, and they're real," he said. "They're not things that fans see often, but they're significant parts of our lives as players."

It's a journey that began in 2012, when the Vikings drafted Smith 29th overall. He became an immediate impact player, recording seven tackles and a pass defensed in each of his first three games. And in just his seventh career game, Smith returned his first career interception 31 yards for a touchdown.

He's also vaulted up the franchise leaderboard in regular-season starts (fourth in team history with 191) and games played (eighth all-time with 192).

Smith has totaled 1,117 career tackles (league stats), the most by a Vikings defensive back. He's recorded 37 interceptions, including five in 2014, 2017, 2020 and 2022; 20.5 sacks; 48 tackles for loss; 96 passes defensed; 12 forced fumbles and nine fumble recoveries.

Last season, Smith started 16 games for Minnesota and totaled 87 tackles, a sack, three tackles for loss, a fumble recovery and an impressive 10 passes defensed. He became the sixth player in NFL history to record at least 35 interceptions and 20 sacks, joining five members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

IMPACT IN MIND

Flores and Smith bounce ideas off each other for how to make the biggest impact with the Vikings defense.

"I smile when I think about Harrison, because we're always kind of going back and forth with ideas," Flores said. "I think he thinks I'm a little nutty as far as pushing the limits, but I think he enjoys it, too. I think it's been an opportunity for him to learn and grow, and I put a lot on him, as far as, if we're going to be able to get into that defense, I'm not going to be able to do it.

"You're going to have to do it on the field, because I don't know what formation the offense will come out in," Flores added. "He's the one that sees it. He's the one that can get us into a different call."

O'Connell is looking forward to a fourth season with Smith, whose 36th career interception finished Minnesota's win at Tennessee last November.

"[Walking off the field] I heard some chants going on, and I was wondering, 'Maybe this is it for me, maybe I've finally arrived,' " O'Connell quipped after the game. "And then I realized Harrison was walking right next to me, and they were saying 'Harry.'

"So, I started chanting, too, because I love him – such an impactful player for this organization," O'Connell said. "How many times has he made a play like that, in a moment like that, where his team needs him and he's there to make the play? One of my all-time favorites. It's not close. I absolutely love Harrison Smith."

Smith quickly gained an affinity for this year's group of additions that include veterans like Javon Hargrave and Jonathan Allen up front.

"On paper, it looks pretty outstanding," he said. "So that's another thing where I'm talking about, if I want to play, it's pretty good to have a bunch of guys up front that cause problems; it makes things a lot easier on the back end.

"You're always going to lose guys and gain guys," Smith added. "But from what it looks like, we've done ourselves some favors. We have a chance here."

SKECHERS

HANDS FREE
Slip-ins
GLIDE-STEP

Tony Romo

No Bending Over.

No Touching Shoes.

TOTALLY HANDS FREE, JUST STEP IN & GO

Putting on your shoes has never been easier with Skechers Hands Free Slip-ins®.

No bending over. No pulling them on.

JUST STEP IN & GO.

NEVER HAVE TO TOUCH YOUR SHOES AGAIN™

Exclusive Heel Pillow™ holds your foot securely in place!

NO MORE BENDING

LEARN MORE

SKECHERS.COM

CANTON BOUND

JARED ALLEN ELECTED TO PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME'S CLASS OF 2025

BY CRAIG PETERS

Hide the calves in Canton. Jared Allen is a 2025 Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee.

The lively Vikings Ring of Honor defensive end who branded sacks with his calf roping celebration has been elected to the Class of 2025. The news was announced during *NFL Honors* from New Orleans, just before the city hosted Super Bowl LIX.

Allen was in attendance as he and classmates – DB Eric Allen, TE Antonio Gates and WR Sterling Sharpe – were announced during the annual awards show.

"It's a nod to doing it the right way," Allen told Vikings Entertainment Network's Tatum Everett. "It's a reassurance you played it right, so I can look back and say, 'I played this game my way.' I tried to honor those before [me], and I did it the right way, and this is the pay off. From a legacy standpoint, it's great. You're cemented in football immortality, which is great. Once I get to Canton, it will probably sink in."

Allen's 136 sacks in regular-season games from his rookie season through his final campaign were the most in the NFL during that span, topping 2023 inductee DeMarcus Ware (134.5) and 2024 addition Julius Peppers (117). The total ranks 12th in the NFL since 1982 when sacks became an official statistic.

The defensive end's 19 fumble recoveries and 49.5 sacks on third downs were the most leaguewide from 2004-15.

Allen also previously earned placement in Hall of Fame company by tying for second with Gold Jackets Bruce Smith and Kevin Greene for the most seasons ranked in the Top 10 in the NFL in sacks (eight seasons). Only Hall of Famer Reggie White (11) has posted more Top 10 finishes.

The Idaho State product played 12 NFL seasons, spending the bulk of his career with the Vikings (2008-13). He started his pro journey with the Chiefs (2004-07) and later played for the Bears (2014-15) and Panthers (2015).

"It's a nod to doing it the right way."
– JARED ALLEN

"Minnesota was the right place at the right time for all the right reasons: professionally, personally," Allen told Everett. "The people I met from the top down in the organization impacted my life, so there's no greater honor than to be able to go in as a Viking."

Allen started 181 of the 187 regular-season and all seven playoff games he played, earned First-Team All-Pro honors four times (three with the Vikings) and earned five Pro Bowl nods.

During Allen's time in Minnesota, he needed just 96 games to tally 85.5 sacks (seventh in franchise history) for an average of 0.89 sacks per game, the highest average in team history.

Allen's tally of 22 sacks in 2011 is tied for second in NFL history, just behind Michael Strahan (22.5 in 2001) and T.J. Watt (22.5 in 2021).

The 42-year-old is the franchise leader in safeties (four, tied for first in NFL history) and is among the tops in tackles for loss in Vikings (104, tied for second) and league history (171, tied for sixth among players since 1999). He totaled 641 career tackles (497 solo) and recorded 31 forced fumbles (19 recoveries), six interceptions and 58 passes defensed.

Former Vikings teammates Chad Greenway, Ben Leber and Brett Favre (also a former adversary) shared congratulatory messages.

"I've never been around somebody that's shown more persistence, more toughness, competitiveness week-in and week-out while having a giant personality and all sorts of fun while he did it."

– FORMER TEAMMATE CHAD GREENWAY

"Jared is one of my favorite teammates of all time – not just for his play but for his personality," Greenway said. "I get a chance to talk about Jared all the time when I'm speaking to groups. The word that defines Jared to me more than any other word is grit.

"I've never been around somebody that's shown more persistence, more toughness, competitiveness week-in and week-out while having a giant personality and all sorts of fun while he did it," Greenway continued. "He truly played the game the right way. Congratulations, Jared. You are going to go in as one of us."

Leber opened with humor before expanding on all the work Allen put in behind the scenes.

"Jared Allen, you calf-ropin' sacks machine, congratulations, buddy! What a pleasure to call you a teammate and friend," Leber said with a smile.

"As much as everybody wants to remember you for all the hijinks and antics, on a serious note, I just want to commend you for the work you put in," Leber said. "I saw it every single day, having to practice with you, saw it in the games, saw all the extra work you put in after practice, the technique.

"Everybody sees this relentless personality, but you really honed your craft every single day, and it did not go unnoticed," Leber added. "I think the other thing is how great of a teammate you were to the other guys in your room and everybody on the defense and team. You're a true leader, a true friend, and congratulations on the Hall of Fame."

VIKINGS IN THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Sixteen individuals who spent all or at least half of their careers as Vikings have been inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

- FRAN TARKENTON 1986
- ALAN PAGE 1988
- BUD GRANT 1994
- JIM FINKS 1995
- PAUL KRAUSE 1998
- RON YARY 2001
- CARL ELLER 2004
- GARY ZIMMERMAN 2008
- RANDALL McDANIEL 2009
- JOHN RANDLE 2010
- CHRIS DOLEMAN 2012
- CRIS CARTER 2013
- MICK TINGELHOFF 2015
- RANDY MOSS 2018
- STEVE HUTCHINSON 2020
- JARED ALLEN 2025

Available at
BEST BUY
Energizer
WE SALUTE THE
OUTLASTING
POWER
OF OUR TROOPS!
Energizer
RECHARGEABLE
TAC-R 700
700
LUMENS / LUMENS
Energizer
VISION ULTRA
HEADLAMP
450
AAA16
Energizer
MAX
AA8
Energizer
ULTIMATE
LITHIUM
20
Energizer
MAX
©2022 Energizer. Energizer, Energizer Bunny design and certain graphic designs are trademarks of Energizer Brands, LLC

INTRODUCING 2025 FREE AGENTS

Football is often said to start up front.

So did the Vikings initial wave of free agency this year.

Minnesota added defensive linemen Jonathan Allen and Javon Hargrave, as well as offensive linemen Ryan Kelly and Will Fries.

That's 375 career regular-season starts and eight combined Pro Bowls (two each for Allen and Hargrave and four for Kelly; Fries, who just completed his rookie deal is believed to be ascending) among the four additions.

Allen (with the Commanders) and Hargrave (as an Eagle) started alongside each other in the 2022 Pro Bowl, and they're ready to wreak havoc in Brian Flores' defense.

Allen (42 sacks, 60 tackles for loss and 118 QB hits) and Hargrave (45.5 sacks, 55 TFL and 79 QB hits) have proven histories of playing well against the run and pressuring quarterbacks.

General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Head Coach Kevin O'Connell discussed the additions to the line of scrimmage this offseason.

RYAN KELLY, C

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 32

DRAFTED: By Colts at No. 18 overall in 2016

PREVIOUS TEAM: Colts (121 starts/121 regular-season games played from 2016-24)

REUNION: Vikings Assistant General Manager Ryan Grigson was GM of the Colts when Indianapolis drafted Kelly.

AT THE POSITION GROUP: The Vikings reconfigured the interior of their offensive line by signing Kelly and Fries in free agency and drafting Donovan Jackson. The trio is projected to join tackles Christian Darrisaw and Brian O'Neill.

WILL FRIES, G

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 27

DRAFTED: By Colts at No. 248 overall in 2021

PREVIOUS TEAM: Colts (31 starts/41 regular-season games played from 2021-24)

WORKING IN TANDEM: After Kelly signed with Minnesota, he helped recruit Fries to join the Vikings.

NICKNAME GAME: Fries has embraced his nickname, "Spud," which was bestowed on him by Kelly in Indianapolis.

JUSTIN SKULE, T

OFFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 28

DRAFTED: By 49ers at No. 183 overall in 2019

PREVIOUS TEAMS: 49ers (12 starts/31 regular-season games played from 2019-20) and Buccaneers (5/35 from 2022-24)

FAMILIAR FACE: Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah was working in San Francisco's analytics department when the 49ers drafted Skule.

AT THE POSITION GROUP: Skule brings experience and has been working at the left tackle spot as Darrisaw has been rehabbing a knee injury suffered in Week 8 of 2024.

JORDAN MASON, RB

OFFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 26

ENTERED NFL: With 49ers as undrafted free agent in 2022

PREVIOUS TEAM: 49ers (6 starts/45 regular-season games played from 2022-24)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 236 rushes for 1,253 yards and seven touchdowns; 14 receptions for 122 yards

RUNNING FOR 100: Mason posted 100 rushing yards on 20 attempts when the Niners visited the Vikings in Week 2 of the 2024 season. It was his second career start and second game with triple digits.

AT THE POSITION GROUP: The Vikings traded two picks to the 49ers in exchange for Mason and a different selection. He is expected to join 2024 free-agent addition Aaron Jones, Sr., in Minnesota's backfield.

RONDALE MOORE, WR

OFFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 25

DRAFTED: By Cardinals at No. 49 overall in 2021

PREVIOUS TEAMS: Cardinals (23 starts/39 regular-season games played from 2021-23) and Falcons (suffered season-ending knee injury in 2024)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 135 receptions for 1,201 yards and three touchdowns; 52 rushes for 249 yards and one touchdown; 22 punt returns for 182 yards; 13 kickoff returns for 291 yards

AT THE POSITION GROUP: Moore joins a talented and deep group led by starters Justin Jefferson and Jordan Addison. Jalen Nailor is looking to build momentum off a solid third pro season, but there are some opportunities available for Vikings free agents and rookies. Perhaps Moore carves out a role similar to what Brandon Powell did for Minnesota (2023-24).

Here for the party. And the pick up.

Get everything on your list.

Hy-Vee

RINGFREEBELLS on Archive.org

Use cleaning products as directed.

TIM JONES, WR

OFFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 27

ENTERED NFL: With Jaguars as undrafted free agent in 2022

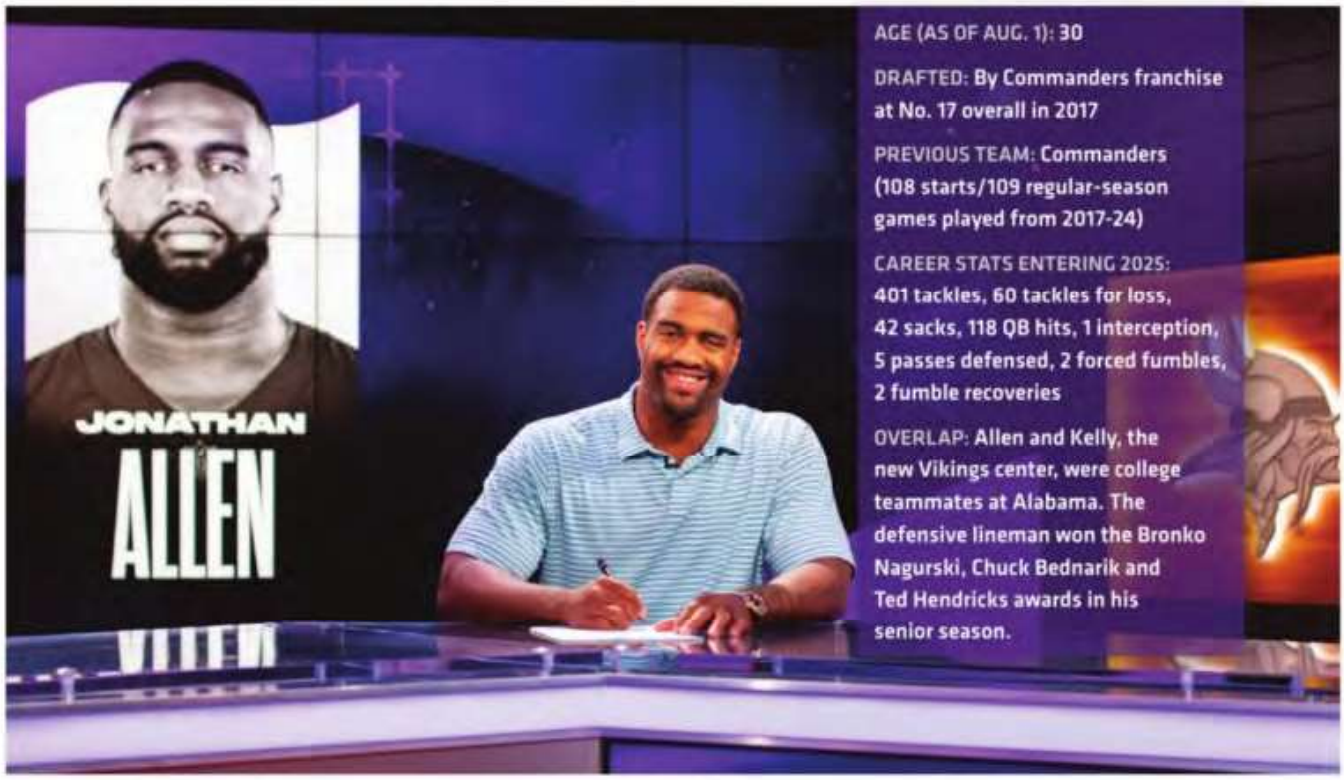
PREVIOUS TEAM: Jaguars (3 starts/51 regular-season games played from 2022-24)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 17 receptions for 154 yards; 648 special teams snaps

AT THE POSITION GROUP: Jones' efforts on special teams the past three years could help Minnesota offset the departure of receiver Trent Sherfield, Sr., who contributed to the Vikings third phase last season.

JONATHAN ALLEN, DL

DEFENSE



AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 30

DRAFTED: By Commanders franchise at No. 17 overall in 2017

PREVIOUS TEAM: Commanders (108 starts/109 regular-season games played from 2017-24)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 401 tackles, 60 tackles for loss, 42 sacks, 118 QB hits, 1 interception, 5 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries

OVERLAP: Allen and Kelly, the new Vikings center, were college teammates at Alabama. The defensive lineman won the Bronko Nagurski, Chuck Bednarik and Ted Hendricks awards in his senior season.

31 DEGREE PROGRAMS ▼ 140 FULL-RIDE SCHOLARSHIPS ▲ INTERNSHIPS & WORK EXPERIENCE

JOIN A TEAM WITH A BRIGHT FUTURE.

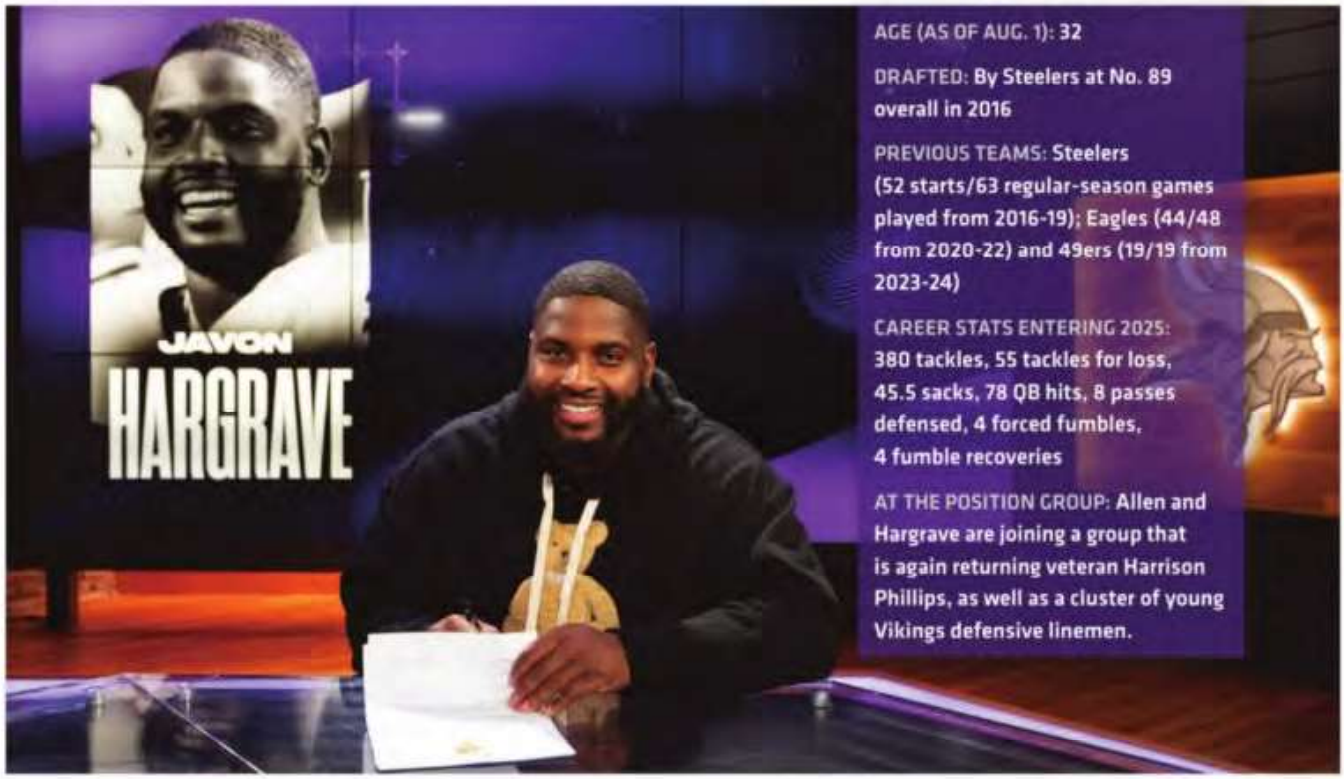
As one of the top two-year colleges in the nation, Lake Area Tech provides a lifetime of value, straight out of school. In fact, we place 99% of our graduates each year into high-paying jobs that become high-powered careers. Get the best return on your college investment. Learn more about Lake Area Tech today.

LAKEAREATECH.EDU

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

JAVON HARGRAVE, DL

DEFENSE



AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 32

DRAFTED: By Steelers at No. 89 overall in 2016

PREVIOUS TEAMS: Steelers (52 starts/63 regular-season games played from 2016-19); Eagles (44/48 from 2020-22) and 49ers (19/19 from 2023-24)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 380 tackles, 55 tackles for loss, 45.5 sacks, 78 QB hits, 8 passes defensed, 4 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries

AT THE POSITION GROUP: Allen and Hargrave are joining a group that is again returning veteran Harrison Phillips, as well as a cluster of young Vikings defensive linemen.

ERIC WILSON, LB

DEFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): 30

ENTERED NFL: With Vikings as undrafted free agent in 2017

PREVIOUS TEAMS: Vikings (25 starts/64 regular-season games played from 2017-20); Eagles (2/7 in 2021); Texans (0/7 in 2021); Saints (2022 offseason) and Packers (12/47 from 2022-24)

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: 341 tackles, 27 tackles for loss, 11 sacks, 25 QB hits, 5 interceptions, 11 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries, 59 special teams tackles

AT THE POSITION GROUP: Wilson has joined an inside linebackers squad that includes Blake Cashman and Ivan Pace, Jr., and he brings an all-around game with the ability to blitz. He also has stayed close to his special teams roots over the years.

FUEL UP FOR VICTORY WITH SUCCESS RICE!

Whether it's game day or a regular weekday, champions are made with the right fuel.

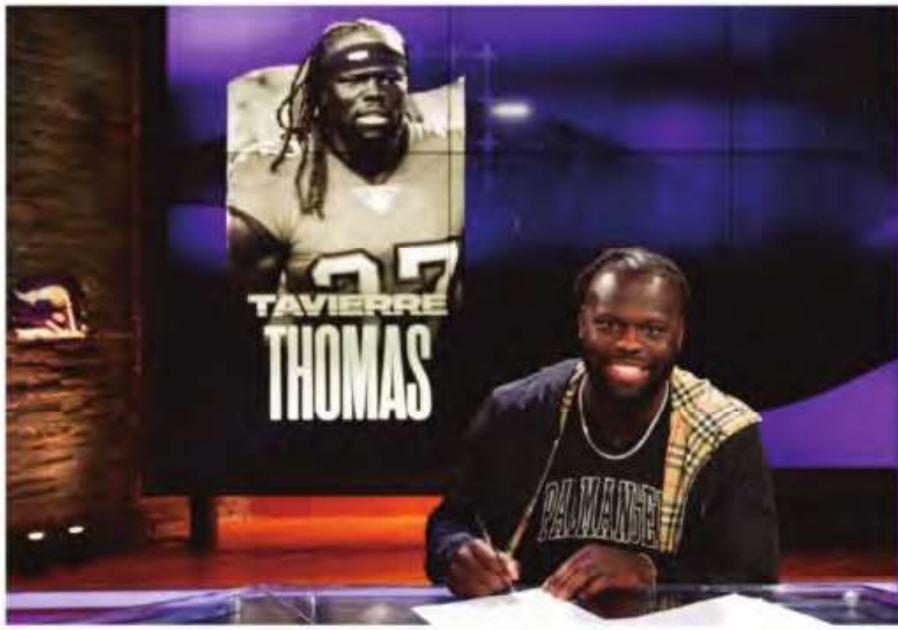
RINGTHEBELL77 on Archive.org

With Success Rice's quick, no-fail boil-in-bag rice, you get winning flavor, perfect texture, and more time to focus on what really matters – bringing your A-game.

Success Rice – Made for Game Day, Built for Every Day.

TAVIERRE THOMAS, DB

DEFENSE



AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): **29**

ENTERED NFL: **With Browns as undrafted free agent in 2018**

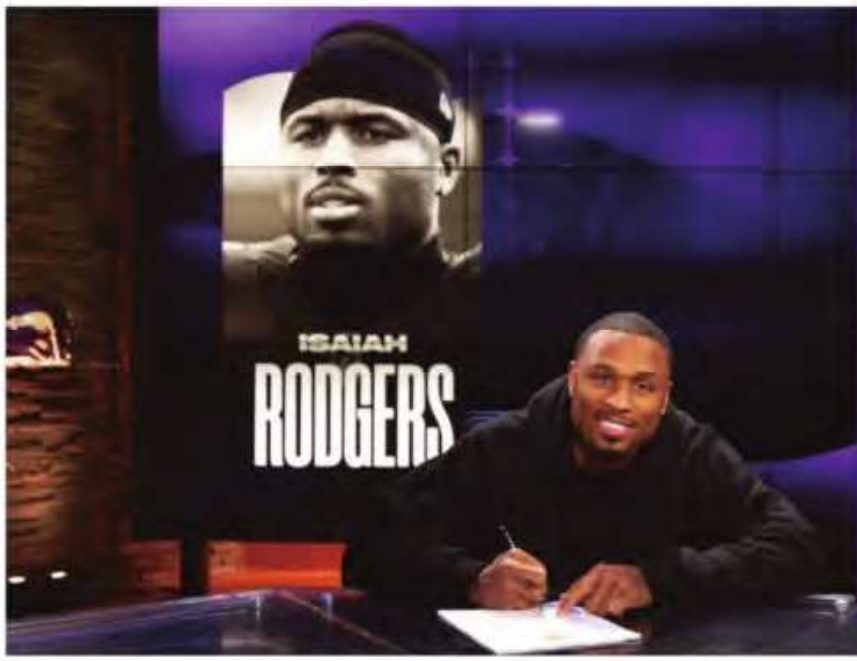
PREVIOUS TEAMS: **Browns (3 starts/45 regular-season games played from 2018-20); Texans (19/36 from 2021-23) and Buccaneers (0/17 in 2024)**

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: **189 tackles, 6 tackles for loss, 1 sack, 2 QB hits, 2 interceptions, 6 passes defensed, 6 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries, 50 special teams tackles**

AT THE POSITION GROUP: **Thomas adds depth to the secondary, as well as 1,869 special teams snaps.**

ISAIAH RODGERS, CB

DEFENSE



AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): **27**

DRAFTED: **By Colts at No. 211 overall in 2020**

PREVIOUS TEAMS: **Colts (10 starts/45 regular-season games played from 2020-22) and Eagles (3/15 in 2024)**

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: **112 tackles, 2 tackles for loss, 3 interceptions, 14 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries**

AT THE POSITION GROUP: **The Vikings quickly added Rodgers when free agency opened in their efforts to refill cornerback spots where significant laps were logged in 2024 by departing veterans.**

JEFF OKUDAH, CB

DEFENSE

AGE (AS OF AUG. 1): **26**

DRAFTED: **By Lions at No. 3 overall in 2020**

PREVIOUS TEAMS: **Lions (22 starts/25 games played from 2020-22), Falcons (9 starts/13 in 2023) and Texans (0/6 in 2024)**

CAREER STATS ENTERING 2025: **175 tackles, 7 tackles for loss, 2 interceptions, 14 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble**

AT THE POSITION GROUP: **Okudah was added in the first week of free agency and logged meaningful reps during Minnesota's offseason program with Rodgers and Byron Murphy, Jr. He brings another veteran presence to a group that also has young players.**

DON'T LET UNWANTED GUESTS RUIN YOUR SEASON.

BATS · TERMITES · TICKS · MOSQUITOS · WILDLIFE · MICE & RODENTS · SPIDERS · ANTS

ECO FRIENDLY

Fall in Minnesota means football... and wildlife looking for a warm place to stay. Whether it's your home or business, Abra Kadabra keeps invaders on the outside—where they belong. From exclusion and prevention to full wildlife removal, our licensed team handles it all. This season, cheer for the home team—not the ones in your attic.

Schedule your seasonal exclusion today.

ABRA KADABRA
PEST AND WILDLIFE

763-537-0330

AbraKadabraEnvironmental.com

2025 NFL DRAFT TAKEAWAYS

The 2025 Vikings draft class tied a franchise record for the fewest selections in one year, matching 2008 and 2009, but Minnesota was pleased with its haul, as it selectively complemented a roster that also experienced key additions in free agency.

Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Head Coach Kevin O'Connell have made it clear since the Vikings playoff loss in January the interior offensive line would be a major focus this spring.

Minnesota got off to a strong start on that project in free agency, signing former Colts starting linemen Ryan Kelly and Will Fries, and continued during draft weekend with the first-round selection of Ohio State's Donovan Jackson.

The Vikings didn't pick again until 102 when Vikings Legend Stu Voigt took the stage in Green Bay to announce the choice of receiver Tai Felton to close out Round 3.

On Day 3, Minnesota selected DL Tyrion Ingram-Dawkins, LB Kobe King and TE Gavin Bartholomew.

Here are our five big-picture takeaways from the Vikings efforts in the 2025 NFL Draft.

1. CONTINUING THE OFFSEASON PLAN

Adofo-Mensah and O'Connell continued their plan to bolster the offensive line during draft weekend with the first-round selection of Jackson.

"Every time you go into the offseason or any planning exercises, you set a vision, and then here are the names and options you have. And it comes down to, 'Where's the relative value of different options?' " Adofo-Mensah said after the first round. "We knew we had a chance [for Jackson], but ultimately you can't plan the future, and there's a couple picks there where you're not sure what's about to happen.

"We were really excited that we thought Donovan would be there with this pick," he added. "We thought we'd have a good shot right at this level, and we're excited about the player we got."

2. CALLING ON SIGNAL CALLERS

So much energy in the Adofo-Mensah-O'Connell era has been put forth establishing an environment that benefits quarterbacks.

J.J. McCarthy and Brett Rypien were the only two QBs on Minnesota's roster after the departures of Sam Darnold, Nick Mullens and Daniel Jones during free agency.

But the Vikings quarterbacks room doubled in size on the draft's third day with the trade for Sam Howell from the Seahawks and by agreeing to terms with undrafted free agent and former Gopher Max Brosmer.

Adofo-Mensah and O'Connell did plenty of study on Howell in 2022 when he was selected in the fifth round by Washington.

"We didn't think in that first year together, when Kevin and I got together, that was the right time in our journey to make such an investment," Adofo-Mensah said between trading for Howell and reaching a deal with Brosmer and other undrafted free agents.

3. NAVIGATIONAL EFFICIENCY

The Vikings were able to display a navigational efficiency in swapping picks that would be the envy of Dwight K. Schrute in the "Garage Sale" episode of the *The Office*, when he went from a thumbtack to a telescope before Jim and Pam offered up miracle legumes.

Going from 97 to 102 and picking up 142 (while sending 187) was a lynchpin for the whole weekend, providing collateral to dance with a willing participant.

The Vikings then used the 172nd pick to acquire 201 and 202.

"It's cool. We're almost like a band, where we come up with a song and everybody's got ideas and you guys get to see the final product," Adofo-Mensah said. "Hopefully it's a beautiful song like "Bicycle" by Queen or something like that and not something on the worst hits track."

4. POWERED UP

A combination of data and performance evaluation steered Minnesota in a certain direction in the 2025 Draft: to Power Four conference programs Ohio State, Maryland, Georgia, Penn State and Pittsburgh.

There's also a couple of neat offensive connections.

Felton played at Maryland for several seasons alongside Vikings 2024 UDFA Jeshaun Jones and has already developed a rapport with receivers coach Keenan McCardell, who previously coached at Maryland (2014-15).

"We were drawn to his play style, his competitiveness, the ability to contribute to this culture," Adofo-Mensah said.

Bartholomew shared the field with Jordan Addison in his freshman season at Pittsburgh and received a strong recommendation when Minnesota inquired about his old teammate.

"We asked [Jordan] about Gavin, and he lit up," Adofo-Mensah shared. "Before he even said words, you could see in his demeanor and the smile on his face."

5. BLENDING IMPACTS AND NEEDS

An aspect that shouldn't be lost on any draft pick is the variance in situations they're entering.

It may be difficult to crack the rotation or garner consistent playing time, no matter their draft slot when joining a team that won 14 games the previous season.

Consider sixth-rounders King and Bartholomew. They strengthen the Vikings tight ends and linebackers rooms – positions that were targeted due to departures (TE Johnny Mundt left in free agency, and LB Kamu Grugier-Hill wasn't re-signed) – but they'll be challenged to earn roles behind solid incumbents.

"Year 1 isn't how their career is written. That's not how we study them. That's not how anybody's career particularly goes," Adofo-Mensah said. "We'll judge them kind of on a curve based on the opportunity in front of them."

MEET THE 2025 VIKINGS DRAFT CLASS

OL DONOVAN JACKSON

HEIGHT: 6-4 **WEIGHT:** 315
OVERALL PICK: 24th
PREVIOUS VIKINGS SELECTIONS AT SPOT: 2 (RB Leo Hayden, 1971 and T Korey Stringer, 1995)
COLLEGE: Ohio State
DID YOU KNOW? Jackson and Seth McLaughlin became the third and fourth players in Ohio State history to earn First-Team All-America honors as a player and First-Team Academic All-America honors, joining Bob White in 1958 and Randy Gradishar in 1973.
GM'S TAKE: "Donovan Jackson was somebody we identified really early in the process as we set the vision for this offseason, wanting to play a certain way with a play style, with a demeanor."

WR TAI FELTON

HEIGHT: 6-1 **WEIGHT:** 183
OVERALL PICK: 102nd
PREVIOUS VIKINGS SELECTIONS AT SPOT: 5 (RB Vince Clements, 1971; DE Brian Robison, 2007; DT Jalyn Holmes, 2018; RB Alexander Mattison, 2019 and CB Mekhi Blackmon, 2023)
COLLEGE: Maryland
DID YOU KNOW? Felton shares the same high school alma mater (Stone Bridge in Virginia) as new Vikings defensive lineman Jonathan Allen.
GM'S TAKE: "We were drawn to his play style, his competitiveness, the ability to contribute to this culture. All the great recommendations we got from his coaches at Maryland and just all the work our scouts did on him, everything pointed to the type of player the Vikings want."

DL TYRION INGRAM-DAWKINS

HEIGHT: 6-5 **WEIGHT:** 276

OVERALL PICK: 139th

PREVIOUS VIKINGS SELECTIONS AT SPOT: 3 (TE Doug Kingsriter, 1973; DB Brandon Burton, 2011 and DB Robert Blanton, 2012)

COLLEGE: Georgia

DID YOU KNOW? Ingram-Dawkins shares a hometown (Gaffney, South Carolina) and high school alma mater with Vikings Legend Sidney Rice.

GM'S TAKE: "Versatility is something we crave for our defense, and he stuck out as somebody who is able to do that, able to set the edge working outside in. And then in the rush game, he has some ability to win over the guard with a unique skill set."

LB KOBE KING

HEIGHT: 6-1 **WEIGHT:** 236

OVERALL PICK: 201st

PREVIOUS VIKINGS SELECTION AT SPOT: 1 (TE Bucky Hodges, 2017)

COLLEGE: Penn State

DID YOU KNOW? Kobe's twin brother Kalen, a cornerback, was drafted by Green Bay in the seventh round in 2024.

GM'S TAKE: "He's somebody that plays with range, tackles. He's a really physical, knock-back, impact tackler. ... A great communicator, was able to move people around in the Penn State defense, a great defense in its own right."

GAMEDAYS

ARE BETTER WITH

Raising Cane's

CHICKEN FINGERS

VISIT ANY OF OUR
17 TWIN CITIES RESTAURANTS

RaisingCanes

ORDER ONLINE
OR ON OUR APP
RAISINGCANES.COM

TE GAVIN BARTHOLOMEW

HEIGHT: 6-5 **WEIGHT:** 246

OVERALL PICK: 202nd

PREVIOUS VIKINGS SELECTION AT SPOT: 1 (T Monte Kiffin, 1964)

COLLEGE: Pittsburgh

DID YOU KNOW? Bartholomew teamed with Vikings receiver Jordan Addison at Pitt in 2021.

GM'S TAKE: "He came in as a freshman and on a really good team and played good football for them. That means a lot. The ability to come in at that age, the pressure of that environment, coming from high school, just a lot of stuff he can do."

QB SAM HOWELL

Although he was not a draft pick, Howell is being included since his acquisition involved the trading of draft picks.

HEIGHT: 6-1 **WEIGHT:** 225

ACQUIRED: Via trade with Seattle during draft

ORIGINALLY SELECTED: By Washington, 144th overall in 2022

COLLEGE: North Carolina

DID YOU KNOW? Howell finished college with 92 career passing touchdowns, which rank fourth in ACC history and as the most by a player in three seasons.

GM'S TAKE: "We had watched Sam in our quarterback journey, our process over the past couple of years, and he's somebody that a lot of people in this building had appreciation for."

DEFENSE THAT HOLDS THE LINE. SEASON AFTER SEASON.

LP SmartSide®
ExpertFinish® TRIM & SIDING

- Features engineered wood strand technology and LP's proprietary SmartGuard® process
- Helps deliver superior protection against moisture intrusion and impacts from hail
- Available in cedar texture or brushed smooth

SMART GUARD

AVAILABLE IN 16 EXPERTFINISH® COLORS

LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish®
5/15/50 YEAR PRORATED LIMITED WARRANTY†

Snowscape White	Sand Dunes	Desert Stone	Quarry Gray	Prairie Clay	Terra Brown	Harvest Honey	Timberland Suede
Garden Sage	Redwood Red	Tundra Gray	Summit Blue	Rapids Blue	Cavern Steel	Midnight Shadow	Abyss Black

LPCorp.com/ExpertFinish

© 2025 Louisiana-Pacific Corporation. All rights reserved. All trademarks are owned by Louisiana-Pacific Corporation.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS 2025 NUMERICAL ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	NFL EXP.	COLLEGE
0	IVAN PACE JR.	LB	5-10	231	24	3	Cincinnati
1	JALEN NAILOR	WR	5-11	190	26	4	Michigan State
2	ISAIAH RODGERS	CB	5-10	176	27	5	Massachusetts
3	JORDAN ADDISON	WR	5-11	175	23	3	USC
4	RONDALE MOORE	WR	5-7	181	25	5	Purdue
5	MEKHI BLACKMON	CB	5-11	178	26	3	USC
6	BRIAN ASAMOAH II	LB	6-0	226	25	4	Oklahoma
7	BYRON MURPHY JR.	CB	5-11	190	27	7	Washington
8	SAM HOWELL	QB	6-1	225	24	4	North Carolina
9	J.J. McCARTHY	QB	6-3	219	22	2	Michigan
11	BRETT RYPIEN	QB	6-2	210	29	7	Boise State
12	MAX BROSMER	QB	6-2	217	24	R	Minnesota
13	TAI FELTON	WR	6-1	183	22	R	Maryland
14	TIM JONES	WR	6-1	200	27	4	Southern Miss
15	DALLAS TURNER	OLB	6-3	247	22	2	Alabama
16	WILL REICHARD	K	6-1	187	24	2	Alabama
17	RYAN WRIGHT	P	6-3	245	25	4	Tulane
18	JUSTIN JEFFERSON	WR	6-1	195	26	6	LSU
19	DONTAE FLEMING	WR	6-2	180	23	R	Tulane
20	REDDY STEWARD	CB	5-11	178	24	1	Troy
21	JEFF OKUDAH	CB	6-1	205	26	6	Ohio State
22	HARRISON SMITH	S	6-2	211	36	14	Notre Dame
23	AMBRY THOMAS	CB	6-0	190	25	5	Michigan
24	JAY WARD	S	6-1	188	25	3	LSU
25	KAHLEF HAILASSIE	CB	6-1	194	24	2	Western Kentucky
26	THEO JACKSON	S	6-1	198	26	4	Tennessee
27	JORDAN MASON	RB	5-11	223	26	4	Georgia Tech
29	DWIGHT McGLOTHERN	CB	6-2	185	23	2	Arkansas
30	C.J. HAM	FB	5-11	250	32	9	Augustana
31	MYLES PRICE	WR	5-9	183	23	R	Indiana
32	TY CHANDLER	RB	5-11	204	27	4	North Carolina
33	AARON JONES SR.	RB	5-10	208	30	9	UTEP
34	ZEMAIAH VAUGHN	CB	6-3	187	23	R	Utah
35	KEENAN GARBER	CB	6-0	188	25	R	Kansas State
36	ZAVIER SCOTT	RB	6-1	219	26	2	Maine
37	TAVIERRE THOMAS	DB	5-10	205	29	8	Ferris State
38	TRE STEWART	RB	5-8	186	22	R	Jacksonville State
40	MISHAEL POWELL	S	6-1	210	24	R	Miami
41	KOBE KING	LB	6-1	236	22	R	Penn State
42	ANDREW DePAOLA	LS	6-1	229	38	11	Rutgers
43	ANDREW VAN GINKEL	OLB	6-4	242	30	7	Wisconsin
44	JOSHUA METELLUS	S	5-11	207	27	6	Michigan
45	MAX TOOLEY	LB	6-2	225	27	1	BYU
46	BRYSON NESBIT	TE	6-5	238	22	R	North Carolina
48	BEN YUROSEK	TE	6-4	245	23	R	Georgia
49	GIOVANNI RICCI	TE	6-3	240	28	4	Western Michigan
50	LEVI DRAKE RODRIGUEZ	DL	6-2	290	24	2	Texas A&M Commerce
51	BLAKE CASHMAN	LB	6-1	235	29	7	Minnesota
52	DORIAN MAUSI	LB	6-1	234	23	R	Auburn
54	BO RICHTER	OLB	6-1	248	24	2	Air Force
55	ERIC WILSON	LB	6-1	230	30	9	Cincinnati
56	AUSTIN KEYS	LB	6-2	247	23	R	Auburn
57	CHAZ CHAMBLISS	OLB	6-1	242	22	R	Georgia
58	JONATHAN GREENARD	OLB	6-3	259	28	6	Florida
59	GABRIEL MURPHY	OLB	6-2	247	24	1	UCLA
60	JOE HUBER	G	6-5	310	23	R	Wisconsin
61	JALEN REDMOND	DL	6-3	291	26	2	Oklahoma
62	LOGAN BROWN	OL	6-6	311	24	R	Kansas
63	ZEKE CORRELL	OL	6-3	307	24	R	N.C. State
64	BLAKE BRANDEL	G	6-6	315	28	5	Oregon State
65	MICHAEL JURGENS	G	6-5	311	25	2	Wake Forest
66	VERSHON LEE	OL	6-4	310	23	R	South Carolina
67	JUSTIN SKULE	T	6-6	315	28	7	Vanderbilt
68	HENRY BYRD	G	6-5	310	26	2	Princeton
69	ELIJAH WILLIAMS	DL	6-3	270	22	R	Morgan State
71	CHRISTIAN DARRISAW	T	6-5	315	26	5	Virginia Tech
72	LEROY WATSON IV	T	6-4	311	27	3	Texas-San Antonio
73	WALTER ROUSE	T	6-6	313	24	2	Oklahoma
74	DONOVAN JACKSON	OL	6-4	315	22	R	Ohio State
75	BRIAN O'NEILL	T	6-7	310	29	8	Pittsburgh
76	WILL FRIES	G	6-6	305	27	5	Penn State
78	RYAN KELLY	C	6-4	307	32	10	Alabama
79	MARCELLUS JOHNSON	T	6-4	307	25	1	Missouri
81	LUCKY JACKSON	WR	6-0	186	28	3	Western Kentucky
82	JESHAUN JONES	WR	6-1	188	25	1	Maryland
83	SILAS BOLDEN	WR	5-8	160	23	R	Texas
84	JOSH OLIVER	TE	6-5	259	28	7	San Jose State
85	ROBERT LEWIS	WR	5-10	188	23	R	Auburn
86	GAVIN BARTHOLOMEW	TE	6-5	246	22	R	Pittsburgh
87	T.J. HOCKENSON	TE	6-5	248	28	7	Iowa
89	THAYER THOMAS	WR	6-0	195	27	2	N.C. State
90	TYRION INGRAM-DAWKINS	DL	6-5	276	22	R	Georgia
92	JONATHAN HARRIS	DL	6-5	295	28	6	Lindenwood
93	JONATHAN ALLEN	DL	6-3	300	30	9	Alabama
94	TAKI TAIMANI	DL	6-1	309	25	2	Oregon
95	TRAVIS BELL	DL	6-0	310	26	2	Kennesaw State
96	TYLER BATTY	OLB	6-6	271	26	R	BYU
97	HARRISON PHILLIPS	DL	6-3	307	29	8	Stanford
98	JAVON HARGRAVE	DL	6-2	305	32	10	S.C. State
99	ALEXANDER WILLIAMS	DL	6-7	291	25	R	Middle Tenn. State
	INTERNATIONAL PLAYER EXEMPTION						
91	OSCAR CHAPMAN	P	6-3	211	26	R	Auburn

AGES ARE AS OF 9/1/25

MITCHELL HAMLINE STUDENTS BECOME ALUMNI LEADERS

Mitchell Hamline is proud to be Minnesota's law school of choice.

Our graduates hold leadership roles in many fields. In a state with one of the most diverse economies, they've put their Mitchell Hamline education to work in a variety of meaningful ways.

11 members of the Minnesota legislature are Mitchell Hamline graduates

50% of Minnesota district court judges are Mitchell Hamline graduates

49% of Minnesota's county attorneys are Mitchell Hamline graduates

More than 14,000 alumni working, serving, and leading in Minnesota

MH

MITCHELL | HAMLINE
School *of* Law

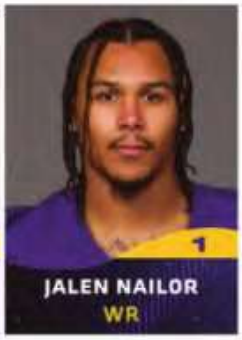
FULL TIME | PART TIME | BLENDED ONLINE

651-227-9171 | 875 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul
mitchellhamline.edu

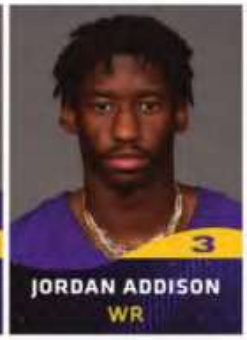
RINGTHEBELL on Archive.org

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

0
IVAN PACE JR.
LB


1
JALEN NAILOR
WR

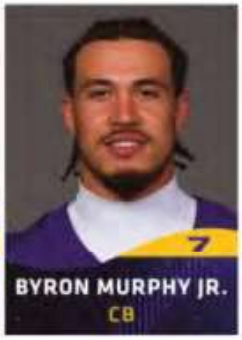
2
ISAIAH RODGERS
CB


3
JORDAN ADDISON
WR

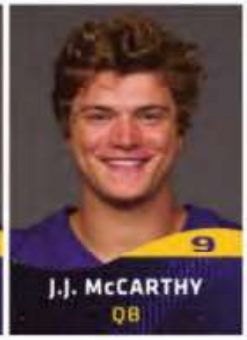
4
RONDALE MOORE
WR

5
MEKHI BLACKMON
CB

6
BRIAN ASAMOAH II
LB


7
BYRON MURPHY JR.
CB

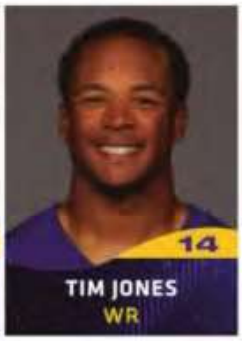
8
SAM HOWELL
QB


9
J.J. McCARTHY
QB

11
BRETT RYPIEN
QB

12
MAX BROSMER
QB

13
TAI FELTON
WR


14
TIM JONES
WR

15
DALLAS TURNER
OLB

16
WILL REICHARD
K

17
RYAN WRIGHT
P

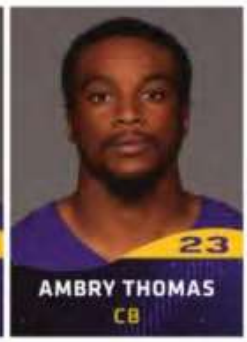
18
JUSTIN JEFFERSON
WR

19
DONTAE FLEMING
WR

20
REDDY STEWARD
CB

21
JEFF OKUDAH
CB

22
HARRISON SMITH
S


23
AMBRY THOMAS
CB

24
JAY WARD
S

25
KAHLEF HAILASSIE
CB

26
THEO JACKSON
S

27
JORDAN MASON
RB

29
DWIGHT McGLOTHERN
CB

30
C.J. HAM
FB

31
MYLES PRICE
WR

Western North Dakota is your ultimate vacation hub!

Check out this adventure agenda:

- [ ] **Theodore Roosevelt National Park – North Unit**
- [ ] **Maah-Daah-Hey Trail**
- [ ] **Tobacco Gardens Resort & Marina**
- [ ] **Native American Culture of the MHA Nation**
- [ ] **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center**
  Fort Union National Historic Site
  Fort Buford State Park

Scan to Create Your Own
Western ND Adventure

WATFORD CITY

VisitWatfordCity.com

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

32
TY CHANDLER
RB

33
AARON JONES SR.
RB

34
ZEMAIAH VAUGHN
CB

35
KEENAN GARBER
CB

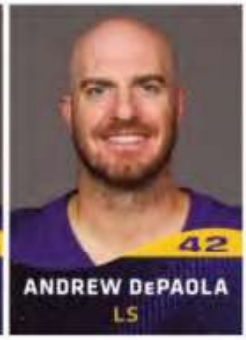
36
ZAVIER SCOTT
RB

37
TAVIERRE THOMAS
DB

38
TRE STEWART
RB

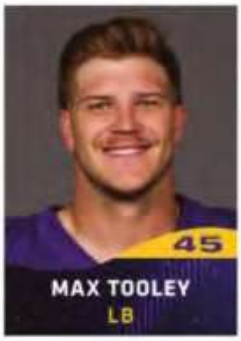
40
MISHAEL POWELL
S

41
KOBE KING
LB

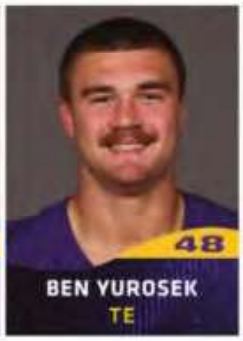

42
ANDREW DePAOLA
LS

43
ANDREW VAN GINKEL
OLB

44
JOSHUA METELLUS
S


45
MAX TOOLEY
LB

46
BRYSON NESBIT
TE


48
BEN YUROSEK
TE

49
GIOVANNI RICCI
TE

50
LEVI DRAKE RODRIGUEZ
DL

51
BLAKE CASHMAN
LB

52
DORIAN MAUSI
LB

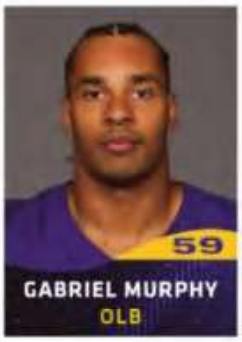
54
BO RICHTER
OLB

55
ERIC WILSON
LB

56
AUSTIN KEYS
LB

57
CHAZ CHAMBLISS
OLB

58
JONATHAN GREENARD
OLB


59
GABRIEL MURPHY
OLB

60
JOE HUBER
G

61
JALEN REDMOND
DL

62
LOGAN BROWN
OL

63
ZEKE CORRELL
OL

64
BLAKE BRANDEL
G

A lake monster won't kill you. Carbon monoxide might.
GET A CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM
FIND OUT MORE AT DPS.MN.GOV/COKILLS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
STATE OF MINNESOTA
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

65
MICHAEL JURGENS
G

66
VERSHON LEE
OL

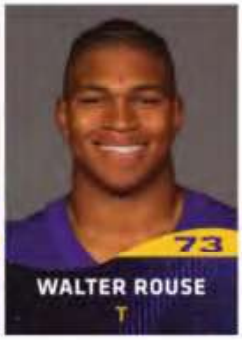
67
JUSTIN SKULE
T

68
HENRY BYRD
G

69
ELIJAH WILLIAMS
DL

71
CHRISTIAN DARRISAW
T

72
LEROY WATSON IV
T


73
WALTER ROUSE
T

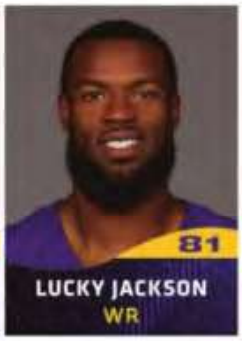
74
DONOVAN JACKSON
OL

75
BRIAN O'NEILL
T

76
WILL FRIES
G

78
RYAN KELLY
C

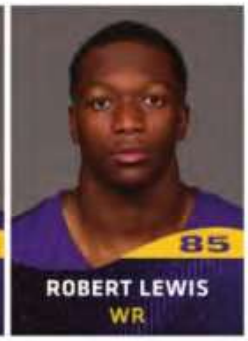
79
MARCELLUS JOHNSON
T


81
LUCKY JACKSON
WR

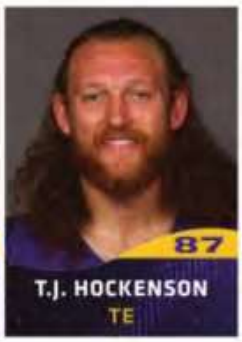
82
JESHAUN JONES
WR

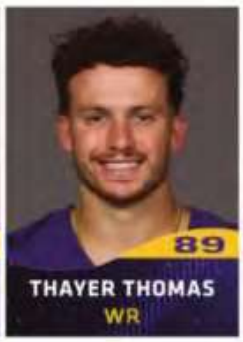
83
SILAS BOLDEN
WR

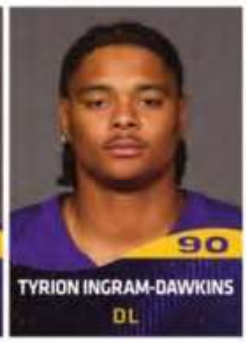
84
JOSH OLIVER
TE


85
ROBERT LEWIS
WR

86
GAVIN BARTHOLOMEW
TE


87
T.J. HOCKENSON
TE


89
THAYER THOMAS
WR


90
TYRION INGRAM-DAWKINS
DL

91
OSCAR CHAPMAN
P

92
JONATHAN HARRIS
DL

93
JONATHAN ALLEN
DL

94
TAKI TAIMANI
DL

95
TRAVIS BELL
DL

96
TYLER BATTY
OLB

97
HARRISON PHILLIPS
DL

98
JAVON HARGRAVE
DL

99
ALEXANDER WILLIAMS
DL

InVision
distinctive eyewear
INVISION-OPTICAL.COM
PERFECT fit GUARANTEE
we see you
ROBERT MARC NYC
götti
SWITZERLAND
Galleria • Minnetonka
North Loop • St. Paul
FACE à FACE
MATSUDA
GARRETT LEIGHT
CALIFORNIA OPTICAL
Lunor
eyewear

Safely connecting you to the world

The Metropolitan Airports Commission operates one of the most extensive and well-regarded airport systems in the country—including Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and six general aviation airports serving the Twin Cities region. Every year, millions of passengers arrive or depart through MAC airports, experiencing the best of Minnesota.

msp

mspairport.com

MAC

metroairports.org

0

IVAN PACE JR.

LB | 5'10" | 231 LBS | 3RD SEASON | CINCINNATI

FIVE FAVES

PIZZA TOPPING

Sausage and Banana Peppers

DESSERT

Cold Stone Ice Cream

CONCERT ATTENDED

Luke Combs

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Margot Robbie

MOVIE

"Suicide Squad"

LINEBACKER 0

IVAN PACE JR.

DON'T REPLACE IT...RAISE IT!

*Costs 1/3 to 1/2 the price of concrete replacement

We are the lifters who care!

CONCRETE LIFTING INC

RING THE BELL 7 on Archive.org
ACCORD DESIGN

SIDEWALKS DRIVEWAYS STEPS PATIOS CURBS & GUTTERS CORE FILLS VOID FILLS POOL DECKS GARAGE & COMMERCIAL FLOORS

OUR PROCESS

We start by strategically drilling 1 1/8-inch diameter holes in the concrete that needs to be lifted. And then, we'll hydraulically pump crushed gravel and Portland Cement slurry through the holes, filling all cavities and pushing the slab back to its original grade. After the slab is back in its original place, we clean the concrete surface thoroughly and patch the holes with cement.

We created a whole new category for lifting slabs called, "Aggregate Jacking". The materials consist of Limestone, Quartz, and Granite fragments. Portland Cement is used often to ensure a faster set time and strength.

THE OTHER GUYS

Most local lifting companies in Minnesota use a "mudjacking" process with different materials. One commonly used material is Calcium Carbonate or pulverized rock. This soft, chalky substance will lift slabs but will not stay due to the material's inability to compact and because Calcium Carbonate is also very vulnerable to water.

Another popular product is Polyfoam. This injectable toxic liquid chemical reacts to air to make foam. It's proven to be three to five times more costly than traditional aggregate jacking. Due to its liquid form, it can be hard to control in residential settings.

Before & Afters

The person who gives the estimate does the work!

Lifting Concrete the Right Way Since 1977

Call 952-250-7686 for a FREE estimate

Visit us at concreteliftinginc.com

LOVE AT FIRST BITE

SHEBOYGAN FISHING

VisitSHEBOYGAN.com

VisitSHEBOYGAN

JALEN NAILOR

WR | 5'11" | 190 LBS | 4TH SEASON | MICHIGAN STATE

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"MasterChef"

DESSERT

Cheesecake

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Xbox

MOVIE

Any "Star Wars" Film

CONCERT ATTENDED

Big Sean/J. Cole/YG

RECEIVER **1**

JALEN NAILOR

LOCAL, SASSY, BREW FOOD

THE

TIPSY STEER

LOCAL SASSY BREW FOOD

Wishing Minnesota's Favorite Team a Great Season!

Blaine @ Invictus Brewing
2025 105th Avenue NE
Blaine, MN 55449
(763) 208-3063

Roseville @ High Pines Brewing
2704 Snelling Avenue
Roseville, MN 55113
(651) 200-3581

50th & Hiawatha (on the light rail)
5000 Hiawatha Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55417
(612) 353-5945

TIPSYSTEER.COM

T.J. Potter TRUCKING

PERKINS STC

Becker WAREHOUSE & RELOAD

Your heavy haul and Warehousing Specialists!

Let's Get Moving!

763-262-5850

JORDAN ADDISON

WR | 5'11" | 175 LBS | 3RD SEASON | USC

FIVE FAVES

CONCERT ATTENDED

Coachella

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Meagan Good

MOVIE

"Gridiron Gang"

PIZZA TOPPING

Mushrooms

RECEIVER **3**

JORDAN ADDISON

We're part of your team.

Connecting families with life-changing resources for more than 40 years.

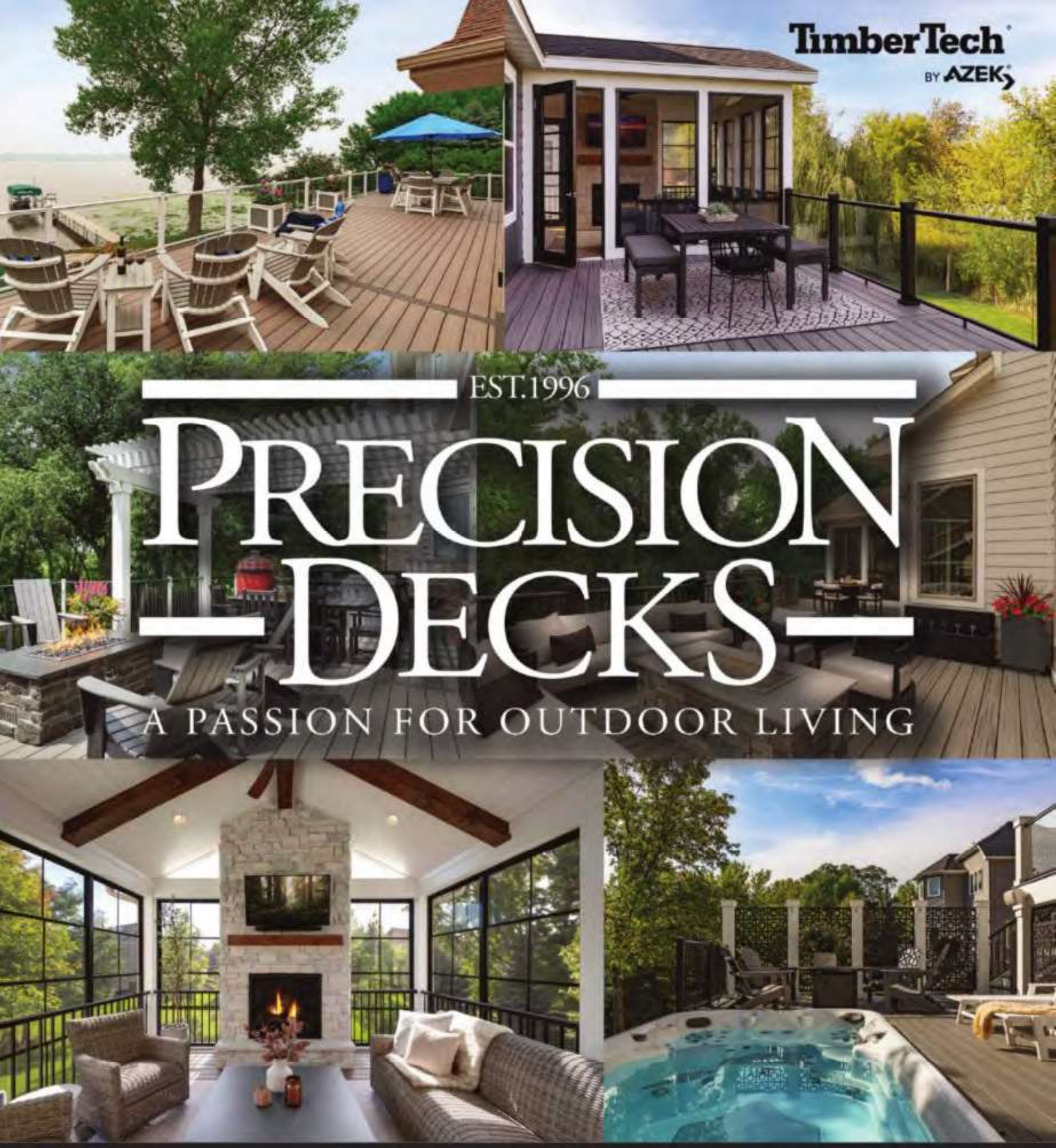
RINGTHEBELL7 on Archive.org

The Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota provides information, connection, and support to individuals with Down syndrome and their families. From birth through adulthood, we're here for you every step of the way.

:Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota

Connect with us at dsamn.org

Scan.
Donate.
Make an impact.



Designed for life. Built to last.

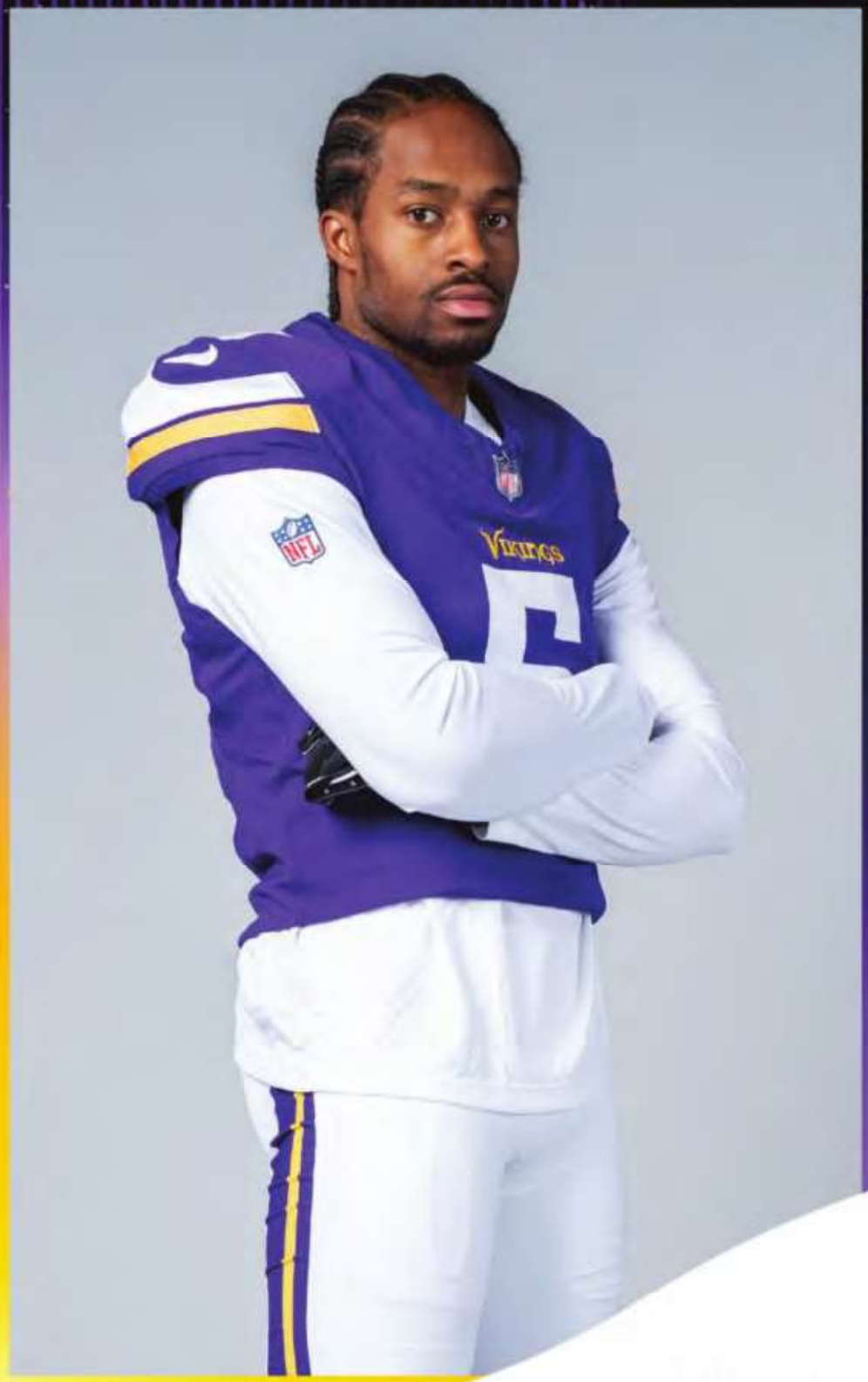
20150 75th Ave N, Corcoran, MN 55340 | 763-355-5233 | www.precisiondecks.com | @ psdecksmn

Scan to check out our website:

5

MEKHI BLACKMON

CB | 5'11" | 178 LBS | 3RD SEASON | USC



FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Deal or No Deal"

DESSERT

Crème Brûlée

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Dirt Bike

MOVIE

"The Lion King"

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Denzel Washington

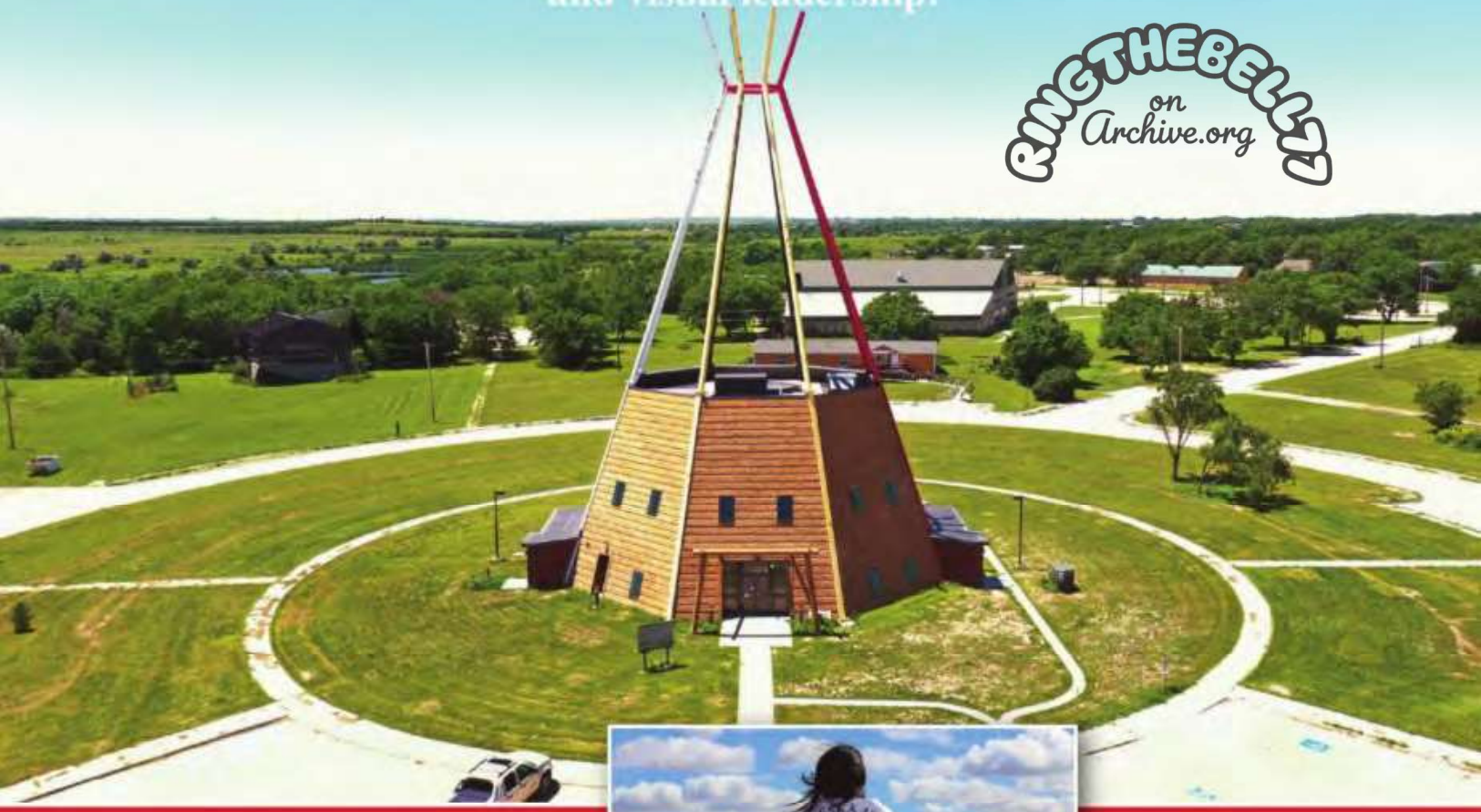
CORNERBACK **5**

MEKHI BLACKMON

WHERE CULTURE AND EDUCATION MEET

Sinte Gleska University of the Sicangu Oyate builds a healthy, resilient tribal nation through Wolakota, self-determination, life-long learning, and visual leadership.

RING THE BELL
on Archive.org



SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY ROSEBUD SD
WOKSAPE WOOHITIKA WACANTOGNAKA WOWACINTANKA
SINTE GLESKA UNIVERSITY

(605) 856-8100 | www.sintegleska.edu

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 105 / Mission SD / 57555
Shipping Address: 101 Antelope Lake Circle / Mission SD / 57555

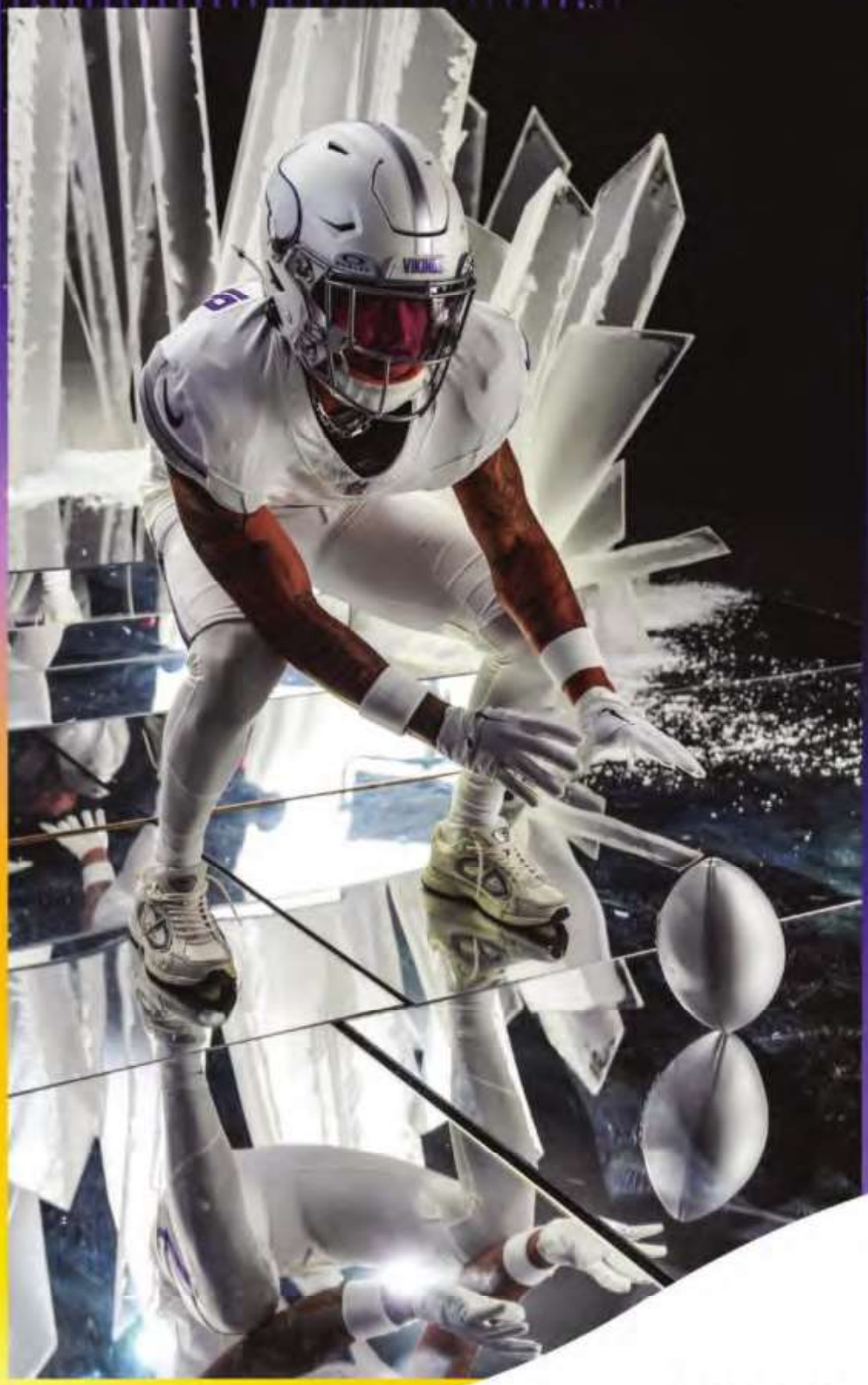
EAT LIKE A NORSEMAN

Giannis
STEAKHOUSE & SEAFOOD

Downtown Wayzata 952.404.1100 www.giannis-steakhouse.com

BYRON MURPHY JR.

CB | 5'11" | 190 LBS | 7TH SEASON | WASHINGTON



FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Wild 'N Out"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Pokémon Cards

KARAOKE SONG

"Buy U a Drank" (T-Pain)

MOVIE

"All About the Benjamins"

DESSERT

Butter Cake

CORNERBACK 7

BYRON MURPHY JR.

Tackle Big Savings

Get up to **$14,000** in rebates for energy-efficient home improvements

With the Minneapolis Green Cost Share program, homeowners can get up to $14,000 in rebates, **depending on location**, for energy-efficient home upgrades. Find out how much you qualify for and start saving today!

Scan the QR code or visit our website to learn more:

minneapolismn.gov/energy-rebates

Minneapolis
City of Lakes

GREEN COST SHARE
Funded by the Climate Legacy Initiative

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact health@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-2301. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850. Para ayuda, llame al 311. Rau kev pab 311. Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay wac 311.

CLEAR CUT
XTERIORS LLC
ROOFING • SIDING • GUTTERS
ROOFING | SIDING | GUTTERS
SCAN
HERE!
Your Home
Exterior Solutions
Company
COMPLIMENTARY EXTERIOR INSPECTIONS!
(651) 340-3410
ACCREDITED BUSINESS
BBB
A+ Rating
ROOFPRO
JKO
CRAFTSMAN
PREMIER
Google
Guaranteed
Inc.
5000
CLEARCUTXTERIORS.COM

9

J.J. McCARTHY

QB | 6'3" | 219 LBS | 2ND SEASON | MICHIGAN

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Goalie Pads for Hockey

ACTOR

Tom Hanks

MOVIE

"Forrest Gump"

KARAOKE SONG

"Hold Ya Head" (The Notorious B.I.G.)

QUARTERBACK **9**

J.J. McCARTHY

Taxes Got You Off Your Game?

WSH

TAX ACCOUNTANTS
BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Our talented Roster excels at:

- Tax Planning & Strategizing
- Tax Preparation
- Bookkeeping
- Payroll Services

"FROM PRO ATHLETES TO THEIR FANS, THEY TRUST US WITH THEIR TAXES... YOU SHOULD TOO!" - Bentley, Our Alaskan Klee Kai Tax Mascot!

SCHEDULE AN INTRO CALL TODAY!

952.881.5343 | frontdesk@wellstax.com | wellstax.com

J.Bird Wines

MINNESOTA'S LEGENDARY MEAD

17 FLAVORS

41 years

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY
J.BIRD WINES
36337 Polk St Ne
STANCHFIELD, MN 55080

www.jbirdwines.com

Mead with Natural Flavors

ALCOHOL 8% BY VOLUME

15

DALLAS TURNER

OLB | 6'3" | 247 LBS | 2ND SEASON | ALABAMA

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Thomas the Train Toys

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Denzel Washington

KARAOKE SONG

"When I See U" (Fantasia)

MOVIE

"Forrest Gump"

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER **15**

DALLAS TURNER

LOVIN' LAKE COUNTY

GET GUIDES, ITINERARIES, TRAIL MAPS & MORE TO PLAN AN UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE TO MINNESOTA'S BEAUTIFUL NORTH SHORE.

explore MINNESOTA

LOVIN LAKE COUNTY.COM

BUILT FOR
GRIT.
DRIVEN BY
PURPOSE.
YOU DON'T NEED A BIG CITY TO CHASE BIG DREAMS.
90%
SCHOLARSHIP ACCEPTANCE RATE
23:1
STUDENT: TEACHER RATIO
• 13+ Associate and CTE Pathways
• Live & Learn on Campus with Suite Style Dorms or Apartments
• State-of-the-Art Healthcare Training Facility
• Brand New Turf Baseball & Softball Fields
• Access to 250,000+ sq.ft Rec Facility in the Williston ARC
WILLISTON STATE COLLEGE
Where the people make [the difference].
MEET US IN TETON COUNTRY
SCAN ME

16

WILL REICHARD

K | 6'1" | 187 LBS | 2ND SEASON | ALABAMA

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

DESSERT

Banana Pudding

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Will Ferrell

KARAOKE SONG

"Wagon Wheel" (Darius Rucker)

CONCERT ATTENDED

Chris Stapleton

KICKER **16**

WILL REICHARD

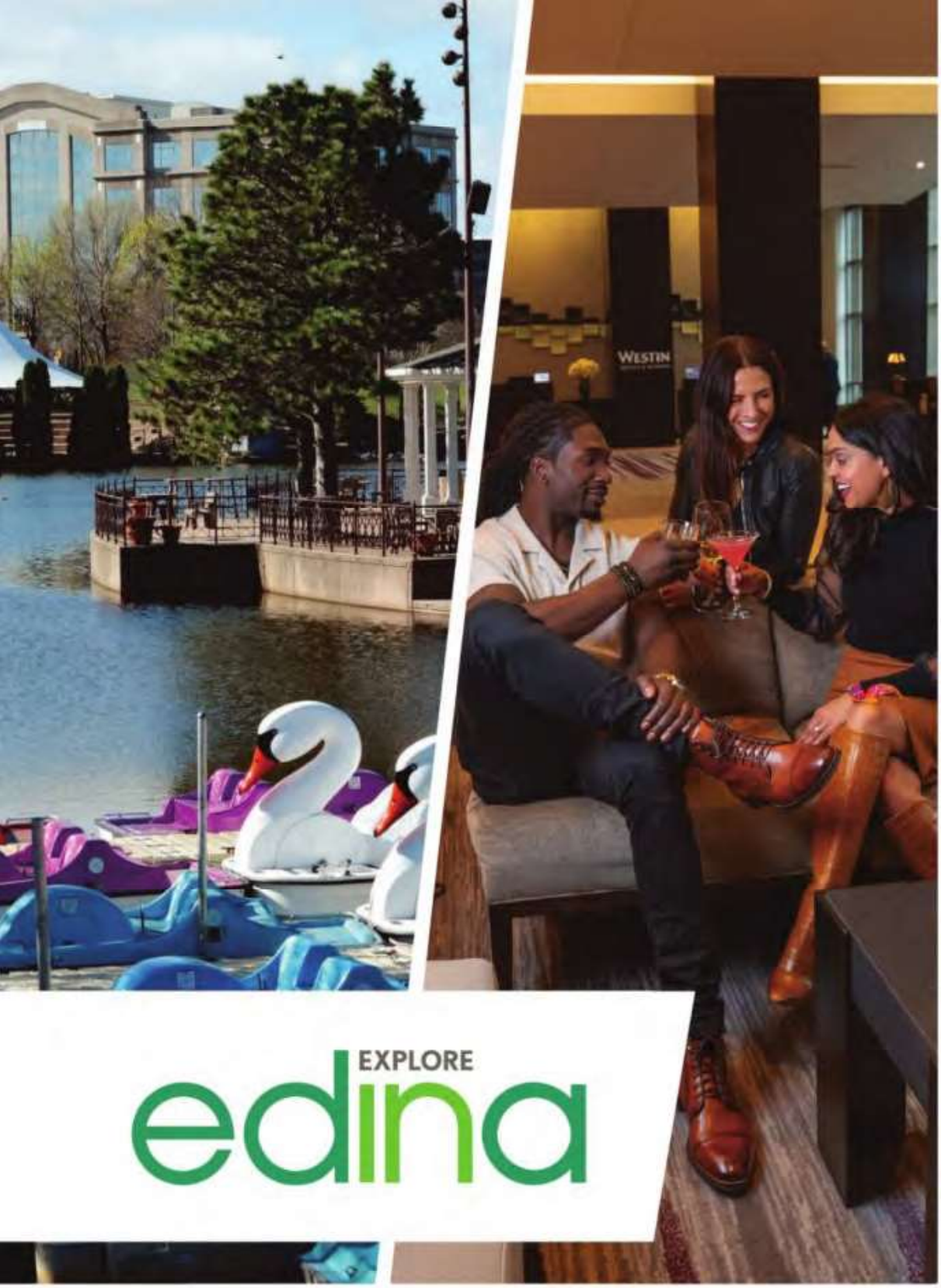
SNICKERS | NFL

OFFICIAL CHOCOLATE BAR SPONSOR OF THE NFL

DMING PLAYS TO YOUR QB?

YOU'RE IMPATIENT WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY

© 2025 Mars or Affiliates.



EXPLORE
edina

Explore Edina for the shopping you love, the dining you crave, and the relaxing stay you deserve. Visitors from across the Midwest come for more than just retail—they're drawn to our scenic parks, elevated cuisine, and luxurious lodging that make every getaway unforgettable.

Learn more at EXPLOREEDINA.COM

17

RYAN WRIGHT

P | 6'3" | 245 LBS | 4TH SEASON | TULANE

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

LEGOs

DESSERT

Banana Pudding or Lemon Sorbet

KARAOKE SONG

"Your Love" (The Outfield)

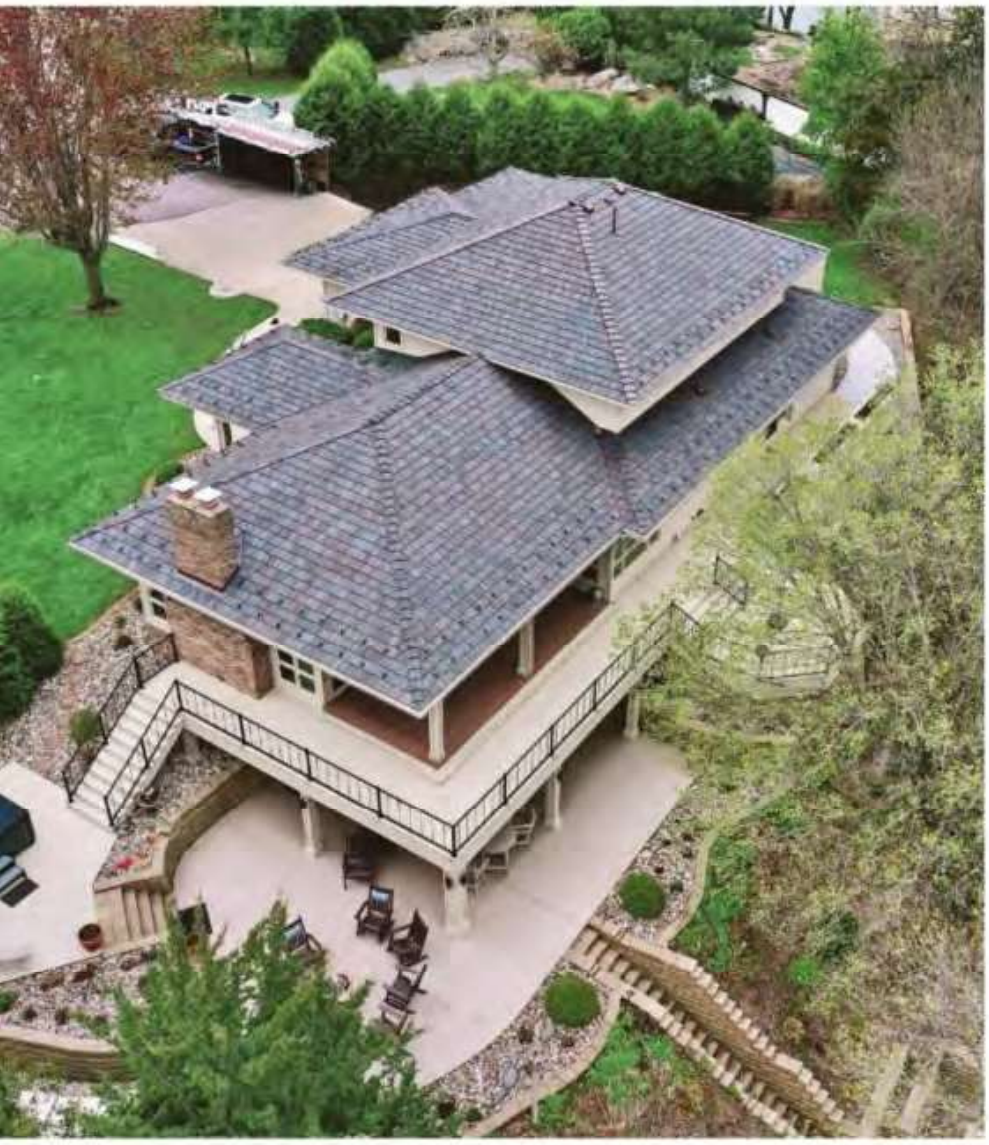
CONCERT ATTENDED

Cody Johnson

PUNTER **17**

RYAN WRIGHT

HOME FRONT EXTERIORS



LUXURY ROOFING THAT HANDLES MINNESOTA LIKE A PRO

When the weather turns fierce, your roof shouldn't flinch.

Serving the Twin Cities & Beyond

PREFERRED BRAVA CONTRACTOR

763-312-0812

INFO@HOMEFRONTROOF.COM

WWW.HOMEFRONTEXTERIORSMN.COM

4640 NICOLS ROAD, SUITE 201, EAGAN, MN 55122

CAFÉ

TK Wismer
INTERIOR DESIGNER
OWNER

AVAILABLE AT

WARNERS' STELLIAN Appliance

It's time appliances had a personality. Yours.

Vibrant Vibes Kitchen featuring Matte White appliances with Brushed Brass hardware | @cafeappliances

8

JUSTIN JEFFERSON

WR | 6'1" | 195 LBS | 6TH SEASON | LSU

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

LeBron James Cavs jersey

DESSERT

Ice Cream

KARAOKE SONG

"Never Too Much" (Luther Vandross/Mary J. Blige)

MOVIE

"Training Day"

RECEIVER **18**

JUSTIN JEFFERSON

THIS SEASON'S

SECRET SAUCE

CRY BABY CRAIG'S

use promo code
CBC25
for 10% off

HILCO™

A history of excellence.

VALVES | STARTERS | FILTER CARTRIDGES | OIL MIST ELIMINATORS
FILTRATION SYSTEMS | FILTER HOUSINGS

HILCO® Filtration, a division of The Hilliard Corporation, is **celebrating 100 years** as a **global leader in filtration technology solutions.**

Hilliard HILCO® FILTRATION DIVISION
100 YEARS
Established 1925

At HILCO®, we specialize in providing comprehensive filtration systems designed to address industrial fluid challenges. Our expertise spans across **Engineering**, **Design**, **Manufacturing**, **Lab Analysis**, and **Field Services**, delivering cutting-edge solutions to optimize performance and extend the life of industrial systems.

Hilliard HILCO® FILTRATION DIVISION

For more information on how HILCO® Filtration can help you, please visit our website at **www.hilliardcorp.com**.

Hilliard
Quality | Innovation | Excellence
Established 1905

22

HARRISON SMITH

S | 6'2" | 211 LBS | 14TH SEASON | NOTRE DAME

FIVE FAVES

DESSERT

Chocolate Ice Cream

GAME SHOW

"Jeopardy!"

MOVIE

"Robin Hood" (Disney 1973)

CONCERT ATTENDED

Hall & Oates + Tears for Fears

KARAOKE SONG

"Teenage Dirtbag" (Wheatus)

SAFETY **22**

HARRISON SMITH

Hefty Reynolds

TAILGATING MADE EASY!

The ARM & HAMMER and Clean Burst trademarks are owned by Church & Dwight Co., Inc., and are used by Reynolds Consumer Products LLC under license. Fabuloso® and associated designs are trademarks of Colgate-Palmolive Company and are used under license. ©2025 Reynolds Consumer Products LLC.

BUTTERBALL

Today, we turkey

Today, we tackle the tailgate.

Scan here for great grilling recipes

26

THEO JACKSON

S | 6'1" | 198 LBS | 4TH SEASON | TENNESSEE

FIVE FAVES

KARAOKE SONG

"Friends in Low Places" (Garth Brooks)

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

RipStik

DESSERT

Strawberry Cheesecake

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Jason Statham

MOVIE

"Friday"

SAFETY **26**

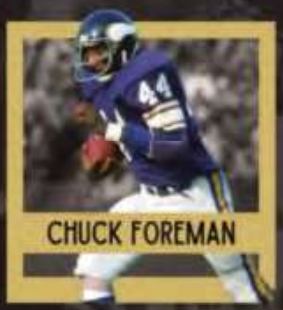
THEO JACKSON

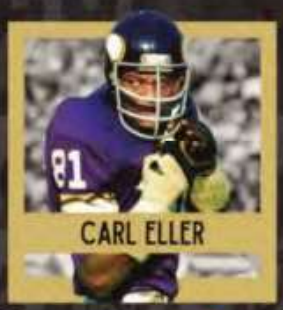
42 ft
TARGET HEIGHT
MINIMUM DISTANCE
33 yd
How do data points become extra points?
Shape your tech goals into transformational game changers with EY Consulting.
The better the question.
The better the answer.
The better the world works.
EY
Shape the future with confidence

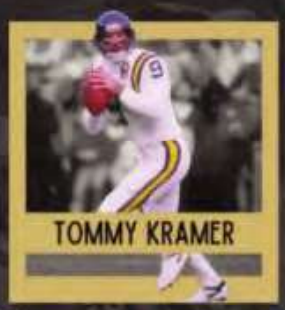
© 2025 Ernst & Young LLP. All Rights Reserved. US SCORE no. 25616-241US | 2504-11270 | ED None

SPORTS LEGENDS USA
EST. 2020

CONNECT WITH SPORTS LEGENDS LIKE:


CHUCK FOREMAN


CARL ELLER

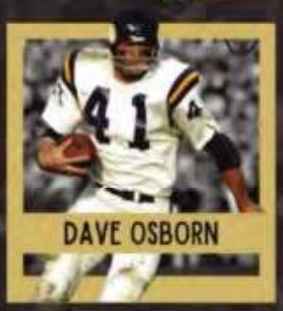

TOMMY KRAMER

PAUL KRAUSE

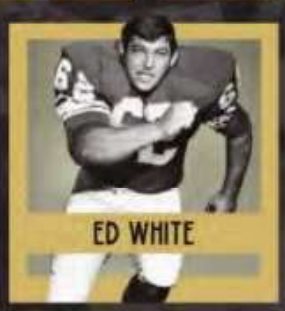
JAKE REED

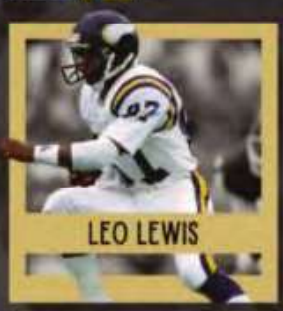
JIM MCMAHON

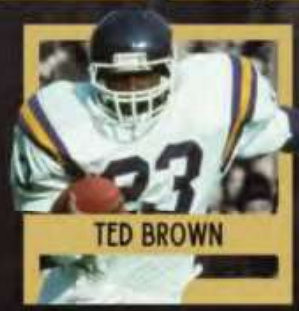
STU VOIGT

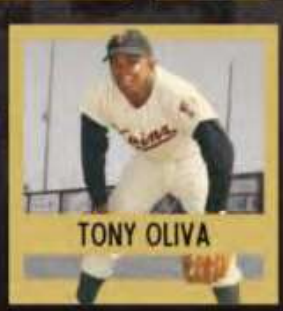

DAVE OSBORN

GREG COLEMAN


ED WHITE


LEO LEWIS


TED BROWN


TONY OLIVA

AND MORE!

LEARN MORE & CONNECT:
SPORTSLEGENDSUSA.COM

30

C.J. HAM

FB | 5'11" | 250 LBS | 9TH SEASON | AUGUSTANA

FIVE FAVES

PIZZA TOPPING

Pineapple

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Skateboard

DESSERT

Apple Pie

KARAOKE SONG

"Big Green Tractor" (Jason Aldean)

MOVIE

The "Creed" Trilogy

FULLBACK **30**

C.J. HAM

ALLTROO

Hundreds of winners.

Over $12,000,000 raised for charity.

And it all started here in Minneapolis!

See what you can win at **alltroo.com**

Co-founded by former Viking **Kyle Rudolph**, *Alltroo* gives fans the chance to win life-changing prizes and support causes they care about.

GRIDIRON GREATS

@officialgridirongreats

@Gridiron_Greats

@ditkasgridirongreats

SAVE THE DATE!

DITKA & JAWS

CIGARS

WITH THE STARS

-February 5, 2026-

For tickets and sponsorships, contact Karen Wright
Karen@GridironGreats.org | 847-868-5487

ABOUT GRIDIRON GREATS

The Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund (GGAF) is a non-stock non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, providing financial grants and pro bono medical assistance to retired NFL players in dire need. The organization focuses on the humanitarian side of post-football related issues: social services to retired players who are in need due to a variety of reasons such as, inadequate disability and/or pensions.

We provide hands-on assistance to help retired players and their families deal with the hardships they face after football.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Medical assistance
- Transportation costs for medical evaluations and surgeries
- Housing assistance
- Financial assistance for utilities
- Medication
- Pro bono surgeries
- Coordination of services for food
- Automotive payments
- Childcare

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Ditka, Emeritus

Mike Golic

Brian Urlacher

Marc Badain

Vinnie Hudson

33

AARON JONES SR.

RB | 5'10" | 208 LBS | 9TH SEASON | TEXAS-EL PASO

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Half-court Basketball Court

DESSERT

Sweet Potato Pie

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Marlon Wayans

PIZZA TOPPING

Pepperoni & Pineapple

RUNNING BACK **33**

AARON JONES SR.

Fins Up. Stress Down. Your Island Escape Awaits.

Kick back in tropical luxury at Margaritaville Island Reserve Resorts, where laid-back charm meets upscale experiences. Located in Mexico, our all-inclusive resorts are designed for couples, families, and anyone seeking sun, flavor, and fun. From spa days and mixology classes to live island tunes and beachy bites, your perfect escape is waiting.

SCORE AN ADDITIONAL **15% OFF** OUR BEST AVAILABLE RATES*

USE CODE **TOUCHDOWN**

Booking Window: August 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026 | Travel Window: August 1, 2025 – December 20, 2026

EXPLORE RESORTS

CALL US AT 1.888.225.6255

HELPING OUR YOUTH PRACTICE EXCELLENCE

H.O.P.E.

THROUGH FOOTBALL 26

SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE
HOPE INTERNATIONAL 26

ROD WOODSON'S FOOTBALL CAMP

100 % FREE TO ALL KIDS AND YOUR DONATION HELPS KEEP THE CAMP ALIVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

SCAN IT
DONATE
MAKE AN IMPACT

42

ANDREW DEPAOLA

LS | 6'1" | 229 LBS | 11TH SEASON | RUTGERS

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"The Price is Right"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Go Kart

KARAOKE SONG

"I Will Always Love You" (Dolly Parton/ Whitney Houston)

DESSERT

Warm Chocolate Chip Cookies with Vanilla Ice Cream

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Tom Hanks and Vince Vaughn

LONG SNAPPER **42**

ANDREW DEPAOLA

A LEGACY OF IMPACT – ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Anthony Barr gave his all during eight unforgettable seasons with the Minnesota Vikings, as a leader on defense, a four-time Pro Bowler, and a pillar of strength in the locker room.

But Anthony's greatest impact reaches far beyond U.S. Bank Stadium.

As a Walter Payton Man of the Year nominee, founding member of the Vikings Social Justice Committee, and co-founder of Raise The Barr, the nonprofit he co-founded with his mother Lori Barr, Anthony is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty through education by investing in single-parent students and their children. Rooted in his personal story, Raise The Barr provides critical scholarships, stable housing and basic needs support, and economic opportunity to families across the Twin Cities and beyond.

Join us in honoring Anthony's legacy, where dedication, resilience, and heart continue to lift our community.

Tackling Poverty Two Generations at a Time

RAISE THE BARR

www.raisethebarr.org

Learn more and support the mission at

www.raisethebarr.org

MERGING® VETS & PLAYERS

MVP empowers military, veterans, and professional athletes to thrive when the uniform comes off through fitness, health, and wellness programs.

NEW TEAM + NEW MISSION

VETERANS ★ **PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES**

By merging vets and athletes, we create an environment where these warriors can share each other's strength and experience, build a stronger foundation for more fulfilling lives, and positively influence their new team, families and communities.

WHO WE ARE

MVP is a community that empowers and connects our members through various events, communication, and trusted resources. Our members are provided with an ecosystem of support so they are never alone!

WHAT WE DO

We reduce homelessness, suicide, improve health and wellness, and much more! Veterans and Athletes come together weekly for a formal physical training and peer to peer support session called, "The Huddle," at no cost to them! This allows them to rebuild themselves mentally, physically, emotionally.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We need your help to continue this mission! MVP has many sponsors and partners that help us operate and raise funds allowing our charity, a 501(c)3, to provide services and resources to enrich our members lives.

FIND AN MVP LOCATION NEAR YOU OR HELP US SET UP A NEW COMMUNITY CHAPTER IN YOUR AREA!

FOUNDED 2015
Jay Glazer, Fox Sports, and Nate Boyer, Army Green Beret | NFL Alumni

Help us give a new team to our Nation's warriors and athletes.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT

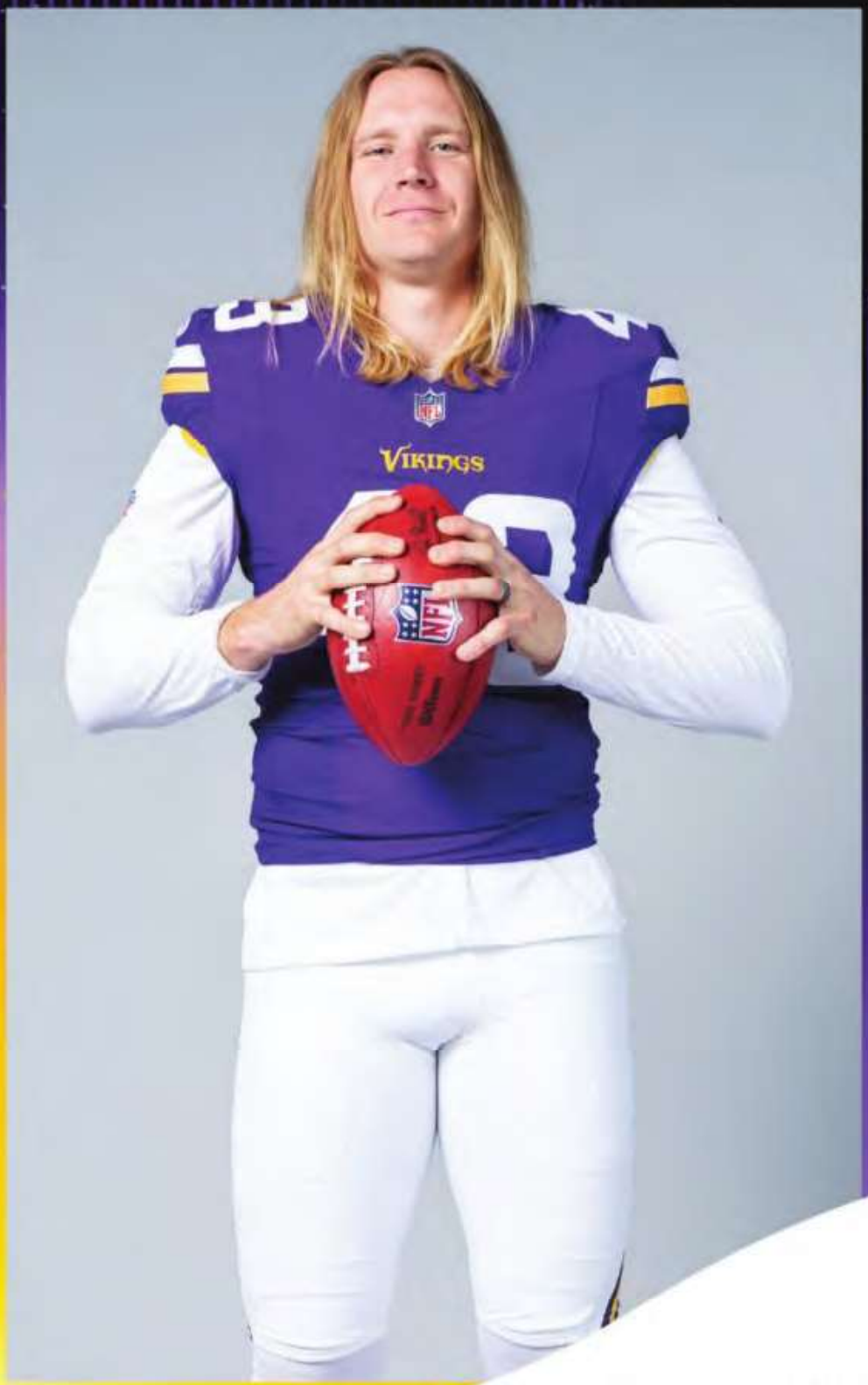
vetsandplayers.org

SCAN ME

43

ANDREW VAN GINKEL

OLB | 6'4" | 242 LBS | 7TH SEASON | WISCONSIN



FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Hockey Stick

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Adam Sandler

MOVIE

"Step Brothers"

CONCERT ATTENDED

Luke Combs or George Strait

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER **43**

ANDREW VAN GINKEL

SCORE BIG ON FLAVOR

Tailgate or touchdown—DOLE® Salad Kits are always the winning choice!

® TM & © Dole Food Company, Inc. 2025

---

urbanAir ADVENTURE PARK

Fun for the WHOLE FAMILY!

Let 'em spin, score, chase, race, climb –
we've got you covered to let 'em have an awesome time.
With attractions that cater to any level of adventurer
there's something fun for everyone any day of the week.

UrbanAirCoonRapids.com
UrbanAirPlymouth.com
UrbanAirAppleValley.com

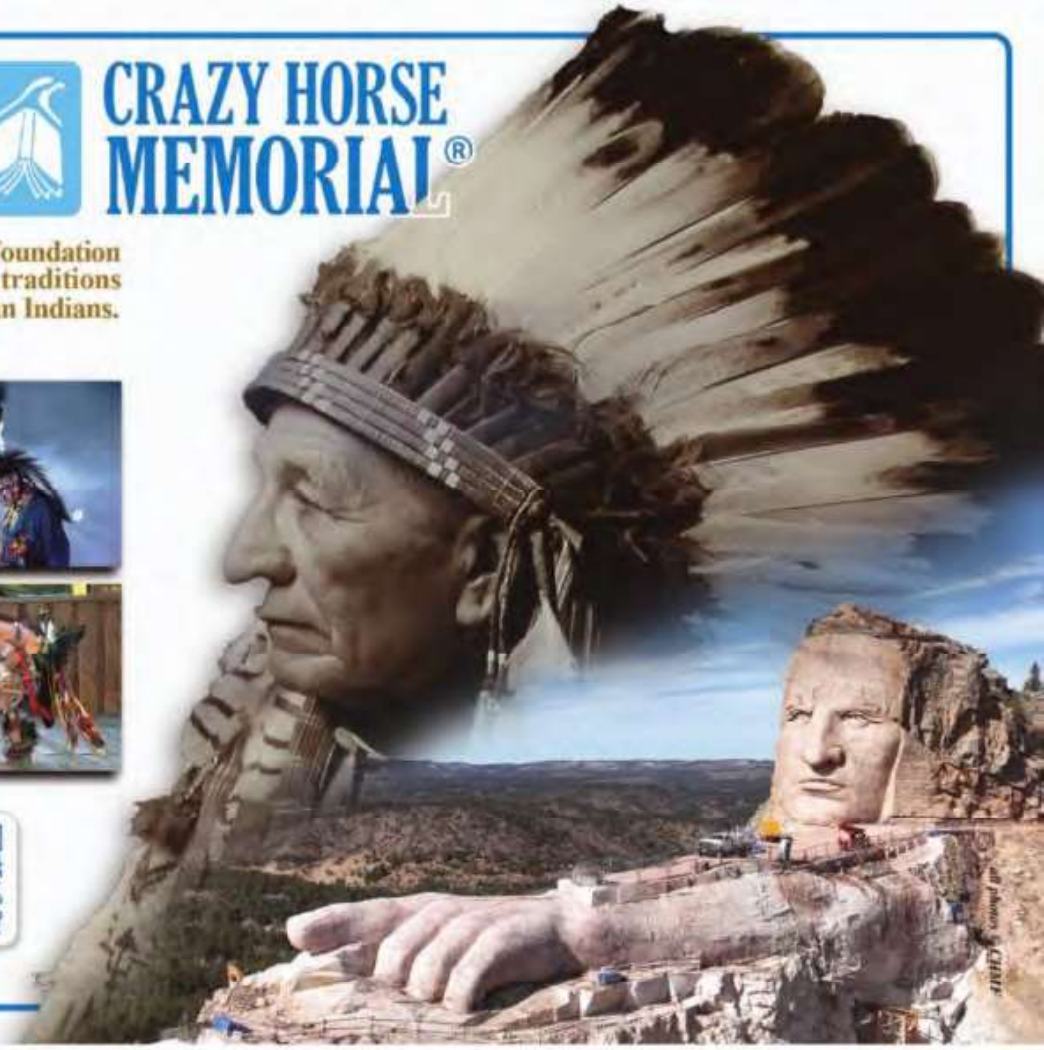
CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL®

The Mission of Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation is to protect and preserve the cultures, traditions and living heritage of the North American Indians.

CrazyHorseMemorial.org

We're open year-round.
Scan here to learn more.

We'd love to see you!



CUSTERSTATEPARK.COM | CUSTERSTATEPARK@STATE.SD.US

LODGES & **ACTIVITIES**
888-876-0001 | CUSTERRESORTS.COM

CAMPING
800-710-2267 | CAMPSD.COM

PHOTOS BY TRAVEL SOUTH DAKOTA

44

JOSHUA METELLUS

S | 5'11" | 207 LBS | 6TH SEASON | MICHIGAN

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Big Brother"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

G-Shock Watch

DESSERT

Chocolate Chip Cookies

KARAOKE SONG

"Unwritten" (Natasha Bedingfield)

MOVIE

Anything with Adam Sandler

SAFETY **44**

JOSHUA METELLUS

Keep the game fun.

Low-risk gambling tips to keep it fun:

- **Plan Ahead.** Before the game begins, set your limits and keep to it.
- **Don't wager more** than you can afford to lose.
- **Make sure to monitor** your spending so you keep to your limit.

Problem gambling treatment is available at no-cost for MN residents

Enjoy the game. For many, making a friendly wager on the outcome of the game adds to the excitement. For some, however, **gambling may take on a life of its own**, especially when betting on your phone and making "in-play" wagers.

Minnesota Alliance on Problem Gambling

Call **1-800-333-HOPE** for free & confidential help.

www.MNAPG.org

HEAVEN'S TOUCH AUTO DETAILING

Holy Clean. Heavenly Shine.

$25 OFF
full detailing service

Call now to book your appointment!

(763) 923-9411

Owner: ISSIAGA SOUMAH

743 Snelling Ave N, St. Paul, MN 55104

www.HeavensTouchDetailing.com

DR. ILONA PARUNAKOVA-SOUMAH
#1 Dynamic Female Speaker

- Celebrity Host
- Award-Winning Producer
- International Speaker
- Leading Expert in Nonprofit
- Global Empowerment Strategist
- TEDx Speaker/Boss
- Best-Selling Author
- Twin Cities Queen

INNOVATIVE. INCISIVE. ICONIC.

She breaks patterns, stirs souls, speaks sharply with purpose and welcomes others into transformation.

REAL, BOLD, AUTHENTIC! – Forbes Riley

WWW.ILONAPARUNAKOVA.COM

contact@ILONAparunakova.com

speaker.ILONAaparunakova@gmail.com

TO HAVE AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENT, HIRE ILONA NOW.

JOIN FOR $1

SOLO UNION

It pays to be with Solo Union

THE FIRST AI WORKERS & W9 UNION

www.Solo-Union.com

Scan the QR code and sign up today to protect your ride and your rights!

Solo Union is a revolutionary platform empowering Uber, Lyft, and gig drivers with union-style benefits, legal protection, financial support, and a voice that matters.

- Rideshare Drivers
- Delivery Drivers
- W-9 Contractors
- TIN Holders
- 1099 Workers
- App-Based Professionals
- Self-Employed Entrepreneurs
- Immigrant Workers & First-Gen Earners
- Workers Without Traditional Union Representation

www.Solo-Union.com

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP: $8.00

Your Vision, Our Craftsmanship

QUARTZ | GRANITE | MARBLE | QUARTZITE | SLATE | SOAPSTONE | TRAVERTINE

We've been fabricating and installing granite, quartz and other stone and solid surface countertops for over 30 years. We're committed to bringing your vision to life because **We're Rock Solid.**

Rock Solid Tops MN

612-712-7728

RockSolidTops.com

INSTALL 7-14 DAYS FROM MEASURE!

FREE

Stainless Steel Sink -or- FREE Color Upgrade!

With min. 35 sq ft purchase. Mention this ad. Exp. 1/31/26.

Cheers! FROM INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

visit igh

...closer than you think!

Just minutes from the stadium, Inver Grove Heights is where the action starts — legendary eats, scenic trails, and cozy spots to recharge. Your next great adventure is waiting right off the field. Rally with fellow fans and experience the unbeatable vibe and hospitality of Inver Grove Heights. Cheers!

Book your getaway now at *VisitIGH.com*

SCAN ME

BLAKE CASHMAN

LB | 6'1" | 235 LBS | 7TH SEASON | MINNESOTA

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Fear Factor"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Tickets to T-Wolves vs. Cavs

MOVIE

"The Dark Knight"

CONCERT ATTENDED

Jay-Z & Beyoncé

KARAOKE SONG

"Rockstar" (Nickelback)

LINEBACKER **51**

BLAKE CASHMAN

KEEPING MINNESOTA LAKES CLEAN - *ONE DIVE AT A TIME*

Locally owned and proudly serving the Southwest Minneapolis metro area, Clear Shores LLC specializes in eco-friendly lake weed removal and shoreline maintenance — no chemicals, just certified divers doing it right.

Why Choose Us?

- All divers are PADI-certified SCUBA professionals
- Hand-harvested weed removal – no chemicals, ever
- Fully DNR-compliant and environmentally responsible

CLEAR WATERS.
CLEAR CONSCIENCE.

OUR SERVICES:

- SCUBA lake weed removal
- Dangerous item cleanup
- Search & recovery for lost items
- Dock installation & removal
- Beach sanding & shoreline cleanup
- Winter snow removal

CLEAR SHORES LLC
EXCELSIOR, MN

3571 West 62nd St, Excelsior, MN 55331

(952) 843-3751

Protecting our lakes — the natural way.

Clear Shores LLC – Dive in with confidence.

ANGELL AIRE

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

From routine maintenance to new HVAC systems, you'll score big on home comfort.

Quality parts, expert technicians, and a game plan built for Minnesota's toughest seasons.

SCAN CODE FOR EXCLUSIVE OFFERS

(952) 260-0390

AngellAire.com

BEI Exterior Maintenance

612-861-6243

WWW.BEIXM.COM

PROVIDING TOP NOTCH SERVICE FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS & TOWNHOME/CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS FOR 30 YEARS!

- ROOFING
- SIDING
- DECKS
- WINDOWS
- DOORS
- GUTTERS
- MASONRY
- PAINTING/STAINING
- PRESSURE WASHING
- CONCRETE
- ASPHALT
- MAILBOXES
- SKYLIGHTS
- HEAT CABLES
- FENCES
- INSULATION/VENTILATION
- ICE DAM REMOVAL
- INSURANCE REPAIRS

AND SO MUCH MORE

ARE YOU A PROPERTY MANAGER? ARE YOU ON YOUR ASSOCIATION'S BOARD? CALL TODAY & ASK ABOUT OUR

NO PROJECT TOO LARGE

LOYALTY REWARDS!!!

NO REPAIR TOO SMALL

58

JONATHAN GREENARD

OLB | 6'3" | 259 LBS | 6TH SEASON | FLORIDA

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Denzel Washington

DESSERT

Mom's Pound Cake

KARAOKE SONG

"Someone Like You" (Adele)

CONCERT ATTENDED

Post Malone

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER **58**

JONATHAN GREENARD

DAV FOUNDATION OF MINNESOTA

The DAV of Minnesota (DAV MN) is dedicated to one clear mission: To better the lives of Minnesota's disabled Veterans and their families. We accomplish this by ensuring that Veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them, fighting for the legislative interests of America's injured heroes in both Washington and St. Paul, providing employment resources to Veterans and their families, and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of Veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

The DAV of Minnesota Transportation Program provides free transportation to Veterans to attend their medical appointments. Transportation is a courtesy service offered by DAV MN to reduce the transportation barrier many Veterans experience in attending medical appointments. The DAV MN transported 20,915 Veterans in 2022.

The DAV MN Outdoor Program is committed to providing opportunities for Veterans and their families to heal and grow. Outdoor activities promote self-discovery, personal growth, increased self-esteem, and positive interaction with peers. Our program is designed for Veterans with all ranges of disabilities. Participation in outdoor activities significantly enhances the quality of life of Veterans.

The DAV of MN Veterans Benefits Program provides experts that help veterans and their family members navigate the VA Benefits and provide counseling for veterans claims and appeals – at no cost.

DAV of Minnesota: Changing the lives of Minnesota Veterans.

Disabled American Veterans of Minnesota | Veteran Nonprofit (davmn.org)

ADVENTURE, RELAXATION
& everything in between!

EXPLORE ALEXANDRIA Minnesota

SCAN ME

ExploreAlex.com

Home of the Runestone, Big Ole, award-winning wineries and breweries, over 300 lakes, golf courses, trails, live theatre performances, and so much more! Alexandria welcomes you in every season.

INTERNATIONAL AG LABS
A BIOLOGICAL APPROACH TO AGRICULTURE

MAKING SOIL BETTER TO GROW QUALITY CROPS

Offering lab services, comprehensive soil testing, custom fertilizer mixtures for gardens and lawns, and professional consulting tailored to your specific growing needs.

Coast to coast from backyard gardens to large scale farms, orchards & vineyards.

800 W. Lake Ave.

Fairmont, MN 56031

507-235-6909

aglabs.com

info@aglabs.com

BBB

Pierre, South Dakota

Hunt Hard. Fish Always.

www.pierre.org

VISIT PIERRE
SOUTH DAKOTA

Scan to get your free Pierre Visitor Guide!

CHRISTIAN DARRISAW

T | 6'5" | 315 LBS | 5TH SEASON | VIRGINIA TECH

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Family Feud"

DESSERT

Red Velvet Cake

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Will Ferrell

MOVIE

"Friday"

PIZZA TOPPING

Cheese

TACKLE **71**

CHRISTIAN DARRISAW

Discover Your Next Adventure
DEVILS LAKE
devilslakend.com
/devilslakend
devils lake
North Dakota

Purple. Powerful. Precise.
Just like your game day swagger.
NORQAIN
JB HUDSON
THE GALLERIA EDINA
3555 Galleria • Edina, MN 55435 • (612)274-7181
WWW.JBHUDSON.COM

There's always a reason.
explore MINNESOTA
@VISITTRF
WWW.VISITTRF.COM
Visit THIEF RIVER FALLS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
BE A WILDFIRE MVP
MAKE THE SAFE PLAY
Don't False Start
Before burning, always check burning restrictions.
Defensive Scheme
Clear area at least 5 feet around your fire pit.
Have water and tools nearby for fire control.
Stay by your fire.
Instant Replay
Drown, stir, and feel for heat. Replay until cold.
Timeout!
If you spot a wildfire, call 911.
mndnr.gov/wildfire/prevention

75

BRIAN O'NEILL

T | 6'7" | 310 LBS | 8TH SEASON | PITTSBURGH

FIVE FAVES

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

GameCube

DESSERT

Ice Cream

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Vince Vaughn

KARAOKE SONG

"Sweet Caroline" (Neil Diamond)

CONCERT ATTENDED

Dave Matthews Band

TACKLE **75**

BRIAN O'NEILL

Come for the Game.

Stay in the Gateway.

TWIN CITIES
GATEWAY
SPORTS

Scan to plan your Getaway

• Anoka • Arden Hills • Blaine • Coon Rapids • Fridley • Ham Lake
• Lino Lakes • Mounds View • New Brighton • Ramsey • Shoreview

FRESCADOS™
PREMIUM TORTILLAS

PROUDLY MADE IN EAGAN, MINNESOTA

The best halftime show starts in your kitchen.

Schedule A Showing Today

TWO LOCATIONS, ONE GOAL–

Your Best Summer On The Water!

Visit us in Hastings or at Tonka Bay Marina on Lake Minnetonka for all of your boating needs!

(651) 437-6159 | www.ericksonmarine.com
11721 W Point Douglas Rd S, Hastings, MN 55033
220 Tonka Bay Rd, Shorewood, MN 55331

TONKA BAY MARINE

ERICKSON EM MARINE

As a Veteran, when someone raises their hand for help, you're often one of the first ones to respond. But it's also okay to get help for yourself. Maybe you want or need assistance with employment, stress, finances, mental health or finding the right resources. No matter what it is, you earned it. And there's no better time than right now to ask for it. **Don't wait. Reach out.**

ad COUNCIL

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Find resources at **VA.GOV/REACH**

84

JOSH OLIVER

TE | 6'5" | 259 LBS | 7TH SEASON | SAN JOSE STATE

FIVE FAVES

PIZZA TOPPING

Pineapple

GAME SHOW

"Survivor"

DESSERT

Oreo Shake

CONCERT ATTENDED

Kendrick Lamar

MOVIE

"Shutter Island"

TIGHT END **84**

JOSH OLIVER

Clarity Insurance

At Clarity Insurance, we believe in providing clear, straightforward insurance solutions. Our dedicated team is committed to offering personalized service and comprehensive coverage options tailored to your unique needs. With years of experience in the industry, we ensure you and your loved ones are protected.

David Oltman
Owner
(763) 373-8853
18205 45th Ave N Suite B
Plymouth, MN 55446
info@clarityinsuranceteam.com

clarityinsuranceteam.com
18205 45th Ave N Suite B
Plymouth, MN 55446

Your home will be the
Envy of the Neighborhood with
Custom Christmas Lighting

Free Estimates

CUSTOM Christmas LIGHTING

We Supply Everything!
Lights, installation, maintenance and removal included.
Go green with LEDs
Non-invasive fasteners
We use bucket trucks to reach from 30-60 ft
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL LIGHTING

30% OFF FOR NEW CUSTOMERS with 2 year contract

Beat the Christmas Rush
Call or text **612-695-5390**
CustomChristmasLightingINC@gmail.com

Celebrating *25+ Years*

1UP VIDEO GAMES

1UP VIDEO GAMES

2106 11TH AVENUE
NORTH ST PAUL, MN 55109

BUTTON WORKS

651-457-8900

Buttons 1 inch to 6 inch
Square oval rectangle

thumbthings.online

FULL LINE OF
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

Don't sit on the sidelines

Join the Minneapolis Police Department

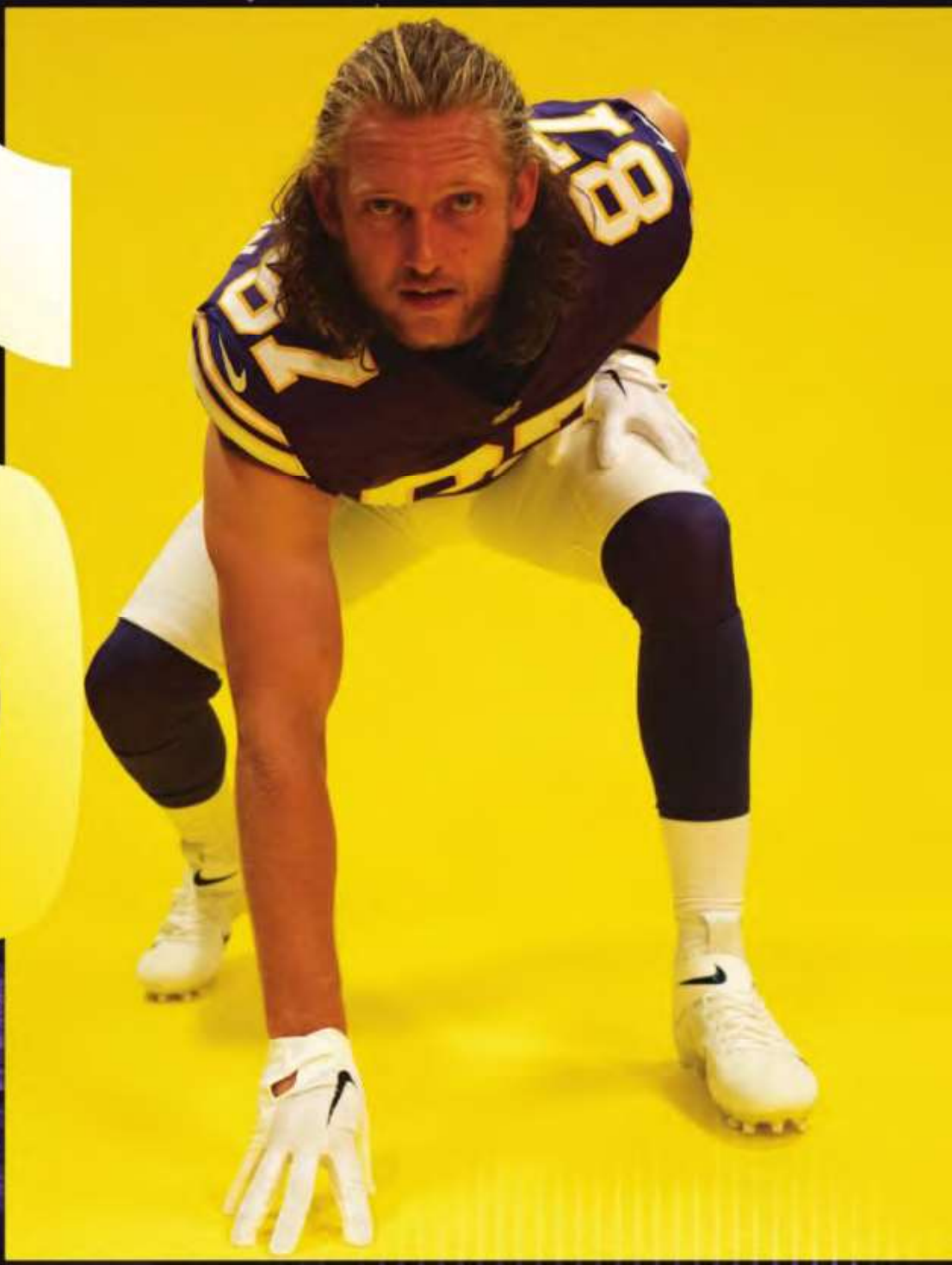
Great teams start with great people.

Ready to step into a career where every day matters? The Minneapolis Police Department is actively recruiting — whether you're just starting out or ready for a career change, there is a place for you here.

Paid training | Free tuition programs | Top-tier pay and benefits

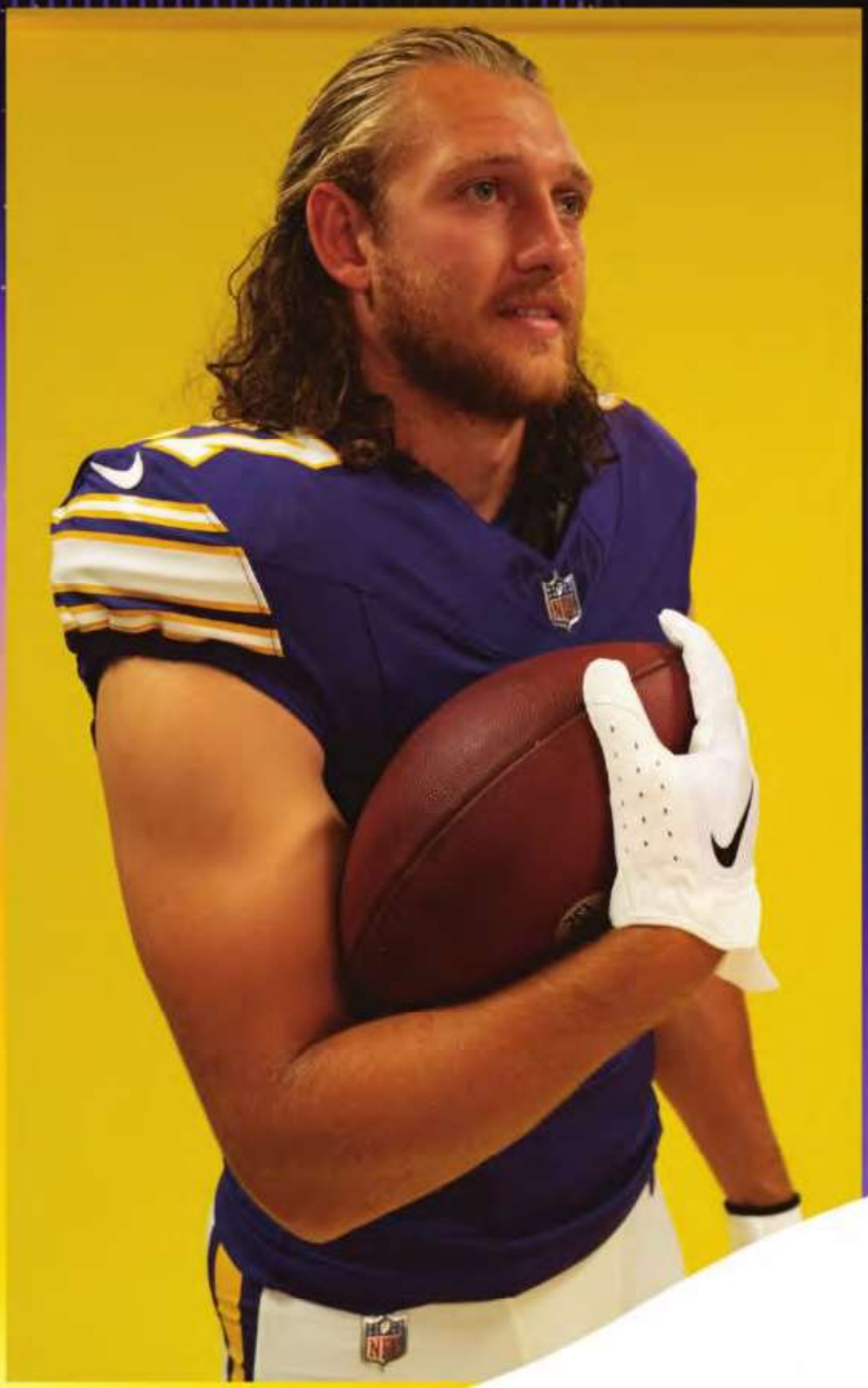
Choose Minneapolis
MinneapolisMN.gov/join

88



T.J. HOCKENSON

TE | 6'5" | 248 LBS | 7TH SEASON | IOWA



FIVE FAVES

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

Tickets to a Chiefs Game with Dad

ACTOR OR ACTRESS

Tom Cruise

MOVIE

"Top Gun"

CONCERT ATTENDED

Post Malone

KARAOKE SONG

"Party in the U.S.A." (Miley Cyrus)

TIGHT END **87**

T.J. HOCKENSON

Hot Plate

is a Happy Place

Food for Your Soul!

Hot Plate

Mon 8am – 1pm
Tue CLOSED
Wed, Thu, Fri 8am – 1pm
Sat & Sun 8am – 2pm

5204 Bloomington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55417
(612) 824-4794

HotPlate.co
Takeout ordering available online
www.hotplate2.0

CLASS A LEASING

MINNESOTA TRUCK & TRAILER SCHOOL

Get A CDL Today!

612-723-4398
www.classaleasing.com
CDL Training, Road Tests & Truck Rentals

Steve's Tire & Auto

Visit our website to schedule an appointment today!

Serving South Minneapolis Since 1981

CARFAX

AAA Approved Auto Repair

AMSOIL GOODYEAR

stevesmn.com

PRE-GAME DINNER & HAPPY HOUR

NEW in the North Loop

HAND-MADE PASTA • FOCACCIA PIZZA • WINE • COCKTAILS

SALT & FLOUR

350 North 5th Street Minneapolis, MN 55401
saltandflourkitchen.com • @saltandflourkitchen

If you love them enough to sit through their favorite movies,

then surely you'll check to make sure they're in the right car seat.

NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat

NHTSA ad council

97

HARRISON PHILLIPS

DL | 6'3" | 307 LBS | 8TH SEASON | STANFORD

FIVE FAVES

GAME SHOW

"Survivor"

CHILDHOOD GIFT RECEIVED

LIFE TIME Fitness Membership

DESSERT

Chocolate Chip Cookies

KARAOKE SONG

"Halo" (Beyoncé) or "Let Me Love You" (Mario)

CONCERT ATTENDED

T.I.

DEFENSIVE LINE **97**

HARRISON PHILLIPS

TREEHOUSE

UNLEASHING HOPE IN TEENS EVERYWHERE.

TreeHouse equips youth advocates and faith-based leaders to support teen mental health through grace-based mentoring, resources, and support groups—helping them feel safe, seen, and hopeful.

Hope in Action: Practical Tips, Real Stories, Lasting Impact

Get mental health insights, teen stories, and event updates—join us in unleashing hope!

Give to bring hope to teens:

TreeHouseHope.org

Screen Printing for all your needs!

Custom apparel printing services **since 1993.**

Wentworth

You name it, we'll print it!

wentworthscreenprinting.com | NE Minneapolis | 612.789.8898

Indoor Safari Adventure!

200+ animals to meet and interact with!

Located in Maplewood Mall and Burnsville Center

Event room now available

Scan to Learn more

sustainable SAFARI

VIKINGS RING OF HONOR

Established in 1998, the Vikings Ring of Honor recognizes Vikings Legends for their contributions to the success of the team on and off the field.

Induction into the Vikings Ring of Honor includes a custom-tailored Purple Jacket and ring, as well as permanent display of the player's name at U.S. Bank Stadium, Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center and the Minnesota Vikings Museum.

Defensive end Jared Allen, who set the franchise's single-season sacks record with 22 in 2011, rode a horse named Coolio on his way to the Ring of Honor in 2022. Cornerback Bobby Bryant, who recorded 51 interceptions with Minnesota, became the 28th inductee in 2024.

VIKINGS RING OF HONOR MEMBERS

(LISTED BY DATE OF INDUCTION)

- FRAN TARKENTON
- ALAN PAGE
- JIM FINKS
- BUD GRANT
- PAUL KRAUSE
- FRED ZAMBERLETTI
- JIM MARSHALL
- RON YARY
- KOREY STRINGER
- MICK TINGELHOFF
- CARL ELLER
- CRIS CARTER
- BILL BROWN
- JERRY BURNS
- RANDALL McDANIEL
- CHUCK FOREMAN
- JOHN RANDLE
- SCOTT STUDWELL
- CHRIS DOLEMAN
- MATT BLAIR
- JOEY BROWNER
- RANDY MOSS
- AHMAD RASHAD
- DENNIS GREEN
- STEVE JORDAN
- KEVIN WILLIAMS
- JARED ALLEN
- BOBBY BRYANT

LEGENDARY CAPTAIN & NFL IRON MAN

IN MEMORIAM: JIM MARSHALL

BY CRAIG PETERS

When Jim Marshall wrapped up his final home game at Metropolitan Stadium in December 1979, he was encouraged to address the fans.

He humbly said, "I just hope I've given you as many thrills as you fans have given me. Thank you."

Marshall then placed his helmet back on his head and jogged to his teammates. They enveloped him with hugs and pats before Scott Studwell and Doug Sutherland hoisted him into the air for another thrill ride off the field.

It was the 269th of 270 consecutive regular-season starts for Minnesota by Marshall, whose record-setting career certainly featured thrills over 20 NFL seasons, including the first 19 in Vikings history.

He gave everything he had at every step, fostering a Vikings identity hallmarked by a relentless pursuit that took the team from fledgling to formidable.

It's why if you ask anyone who has worn the Purple, he'll tell you the epic story of the Vikings – and the NFL – simply cannot be written without including Marshall's contributions.

Known affectionately as "The Captain" or "Captain Jim" – or "*Mis-ter Mar-shall*" if the addressor was legendary Head Coach Bud Grant – Marshall started every game for the entirety of the Vikings franchise's first two decades.

On behalf of his cherished wife, Susan, it was with heavy hearts and an abundant gratitude for the joy he brought to the franchise and region, that the Minnesota Vikings announced Marshall passed away on June 3 at the age of 87, following a lengthy hospitalization.

Beyond athletic prowess, Marshall's legacy is one of an enduring and endearing spirit and deep generosity. His exuberance positively affected countless others, and his memory will continue to inspire.

A celebration of his life will be planned.

Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf, Vikings Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf and the Wilf family ownership group issued the following statement:

"The entire Minnesota Vikings organization is mourning the loss of Jim Marshall. No player in Vikings history lived the ideals of toughness, camaraderie and passion more than the all-time iron man. A cornerstone of the franchise from the beginning, Captain Jim's unmatched durability and quiet leadership earned the respect of teammates and opponents throughout his 20-year career. Jim led by example, and there was no finer example for others to follow. His impact on the Vikings was felt long after he left the field. Jim will always be remembered as a tremendous player and person. Our hearts are with his wife, Susan, and all of Jim's loved ones."

Marshall arrived in Minnesota in September 1961 after a trade with Cleveland brought the man with iron resolve to the land of the Iron Range. He made the drive from Ohio as the Vikings prepared to host – and ultimately shocked – the Bears 37-13 in Week 1.

Original Vikings Head Coach Norm Van Brocklin credited Marshall with forcing two interceptions by creating QB pressures in his debut.

It didn't matter that Marshall had been with Minnesota for less than a week, or that he had lost significant weight during Cleveland's 1961 training camp while battling encephalitis.

Marshall's legacy of leadership and determination created an identity that resonated throughout a locker room and region, reverberating for generations of Vikings players, coaches, staff and fans to come.

He authentically appreciated enduring the elements and accomplished unfathomable feats, yet remained relatable. He could philosophize to the depths and embark on adventures but also remain within reality. He created art and memorized poetry, but game days displayed his finest artistry and verse.

Upon his hire in 1967, Grant quickly recognized Marshall's "leadership qualities were in spades." He often credited Marshall's impact with being so important to Minnesota's successes.

"He was a special player," Grant said during an interview recorded at Winter Park, several years before his passing in 2023. "Many times you're asked, 'Who are the greatest players?' As a coach, you can't say who is the best, but there is a category you do have, and that is 'special.' Jim Marshall was 'special.' "

"He set the standard of what a Minnesota Vikings player should be."

- FRAN TARKENTON

Interviews conducted over the past decade-plus illustrate just how deeply teammates revered Marshall, including Fran Tarkenton, a rookie in 1961 who teamed with Marshall for 13 of the quarterback's 18 NFL seasons (1961-66 and 1972-78).

"There's no question Jim Marshall was the most important player in the history of Minnesota Vikings football," Tarkenton said. "He set the standard of what a Minnesota Vikings player should be."

"Jim Marshall set the tone for how this franchise goes today," Tarkenton added. "We had the Purple People Eaters. They were the foundation of who we are. The leader of the band was Jim Marshall."

From right to left, it was Marshall, Alan Page, Gary Larsen and Carl Eller in the group that referred to itself as the "Purple Gang."

The havoc the players caused opponents, combined with a popular rock song, led to most calling the group the Purple People Eaters, who planned to meet at the quarterback.

"If you looked in the dictionary and tried to find the definition of a football player, Jim Marshall's picture would be there," said Page, who joined the group in 1967.

Larsen, a former Marine with Nordic connections, played for Minnesota from 1965-74.

"Everybody looked up to him. He led by example. He showed you what had to be done and did it," Larsen said.

Eller, who started 201 games for Minnesota from 1964-78, said Marshall's persistent determination helped other players find a way.

"We'd look at Jim and say, 'Man, if he can go, I can go.' So Jim, more than anything, was inspirational all through my career," Eller said.

Some people have a certain magnetism that pulls people together. The motivation can at times be for attention of self or seeking adoration, but Marshall directed his power to direct a focus on togetherness in pursuit of adventure and celebrate the joy of football.

"He was the best captain of any team that I've ever been on," said receiver Ahmad Rashad, whose talent fully blossomed after arriving in Minnesota.

Right tackle Ron Yary started 180 games for the Vikings from 1968-81 and was the first offensive lineman ever selected from the No. 1 overall spot in an NFL draft.

"When things were the worst is when he presented himself as the best," Yary said. "He made me a better football player because I wanted to play for Jim. I didn't want to let him down."

Marshall set an NFL record for consecutive games by a position player (282) that was later broken by Brett Favre (299). Marshall still ranks fourth in the latter category behind Favre, Bruce Matthews (292) and Jerry Rice (284).

Marshall set the NFL record with 29 career opponent fumble recoveries that was later tied by Jason Taylor.

Although sacks did not officially count until the 1982 season, pro-football-reference.com analyzed stat books from all games since 1960 and tallied 130.5 for Marshall, which ranked third in NFL history at the time of his retirement. Only Hall of Famers Deacon Jones (173.5) and Vikings teammate Carl Eller (133.5) tallied more than Marshall through the 1979 season. Marshall was selected to two Pro Bowls and started 19 playoff games, including all four of the Vikings trips to Super Bowls.

His final start occurred on Dec. 16, 1979, two weeks before he turned 42 years old.

As Steve Sabol said in an NFL Films feature about Marshall, "No player in the history of the game ever played harder, longer than Jim Marshall."

"Jim Marshall was the heartbeat of the Vikings during my nine seasons," former teammate Ed White said. "A true leader, he united us, stood for us and shared his wisdom."

Paul Wiggin, who played 146 games for Cleveland, including 12 in 1960 as Marshall's teammate, knew just where he should look for quality game film after Wiggin became a coach.

"I studied 30 great linemen at that time, both inside and outside players," Wiggin said. "Jim Marshall, in my opinion, was the most natural and best football player of all of them. I know the difference between good and great. He was great.

"It isn't easy [to play every week] because there are days where Sunday, you get up and you don't know how you're going to do it," the former defensive lineman added. "He did it forever."

Grant in 1979, upon Marshall announcing his intention to retire, predicted the appreciation for Marshall would grow over time. Like most cases, Grant was correct.

"I don't think any of us here really appreciates Jim Marshall today," Grant was quoted by *The Associated Press*. "As time and years go by, we'll appreciate him more than ever. ... He's going out on top like Francis did. He's not going out on the Injured Reserve or as a backup player. He's going out as a starting, full-time player, playing as well as he always has.

"Maybe we've taken it for granted that Jim Marshall plays hurt," Grant said. "But durability is the most important ability you have. You can't achieve greatness without durability, and that is personified in Jim Marshall. He has been hurt. But he doesn't break. He bends. He heals. He has a high pain threshold. ... Jim not only plays hurt, he plays as well when he's hurt as when he isn't. That's what's important."

Grant was among the speakers during a 1999 halftime ceremony when Marshall's No. 70 jersey was retired and he was inducted into the Vikings Ring of Honor.

Upon retiring from the game, Marshall continued to make his home in Minnesota and give back to this community.

He and former teammate Oscar Reed co-founded The Link, an organization to support youth and families experiencing homelessness, young people who are survivors of sex trafficking and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The Link offers programs designed to empower youth with resources and relationships to pursue their goals, serving more than 2,000 youth and families in the Twin Cities each year.

"He was, if anybody ever has been, the heart and soul of the Minnesota Vikings."

– ALAN PAGE

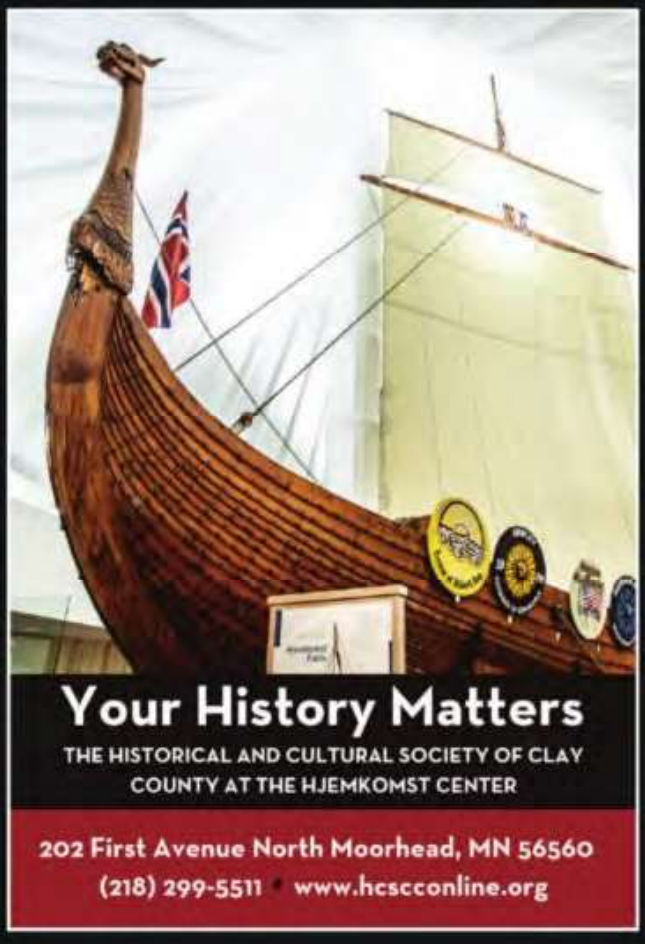
TWIN CITIES
TIME + LUXURY
Twin Cities Pre-Owned Watch Destination

Consign | Buy | Sell | Source

Visit us at our showroom
5353 Wayzata Blvd | Suite 210
Minneapolis, MN 55416
612.709.7530

Shop online to view
100+ pieces in stock
www.tctimeandluxury.com

Art of the Lakota
Extraordinary
• Bead & Quill Work
• Fine Art
• Books & Music
• Buffalo Skulls & Robes
• Quilts & Pendletons
• Fabulous Jewelry
• Clothing and Much More
A Great Experience!
PRAIRIE EDGE
6th & Main, Rapid City | 605-342-3086 | prairieedge.com


Your History Matters
THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CLAY COUNTY AT THE HJEMKOMST CENTER
202 First Avenue North Moorhead, MN 56560
(218) 299-5511 • www.hcscconline.org

Donations to The Link or the Minnesota Vikings Foundation in memory of Jim are a way fans and friends can continue to impact the community.

Beyond the community impact that will continue through The Link, Marshall will continue to inspire the Vikings locker room. In 2024, with support from Head Coach Kevin O'Connell and General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, the Jim Marshall Vikings Captains Legacy Wall was installed at the players' entry of Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center.

The display features a permanent picture of Marshall, as well as a photo of current captains and a listing of all-time captains, that will be updated annually.

"The first thing the players see when they walk in the building every day is the Jim Marshall Vikings Captains Legacy Wall," O'Connell said when the display was unveiled. "I think it's really important, a huge part of our history and a great way to honor the greatest captain in the history of our organization and one of the best defensive players to ever do it."

From contributing to the organization's legacy to impacting the Twin Cities Community to helping launch new traditions, Marshall's influence is woven throughout Vikings history.

He and the Purple People Eaters helped introduce the popular SKOL Chant at U.S. Bank Stadium in 2016. Fittingly, every "Boom, boom, SKOL!" reaffirms the importance of togetherness and the relentless pursuit of a shared goal.

"He was, if anybody ever has been, the heart and soul of the Minnesota Vikings," Page said. "It was my high honor to play next to him."

Scan the code to visit The Link's website for resources and to learn how you can help the organization's mission.

LANDMARK CENTER

Museums & Galleries | Cultural Events
Tours | Gift Shop | Rental Spaces

FOR A CALENDAR OF EVENTS

landmarkcenter.org

NORTH COUNTRY CONCRETE INC.

23035 Ulysses Street NE
East Bethel, MN 55005

763-576-8602

- CURB & GUTTER
- PAVING
- SIDEWALKS
- DRIVEWAYS
- WALLS

www.northcountryconcrete.com

CAPTAIN KEN'S FOODS

Committed To Quality Since 1967

www.captainkens.com

BROTHERS
PEST MANAGEMENT

Pest Control Services	Lawn Care Services
Grub Control Services	Junk Removal Service
Rodent & Bat Exclusions	Landscape & Hardscape
Mosquito and Tick Services	Tree Trimming & Removal

YOUR TRUSTED LOCAL & FAMILY OWNED PEST & LAWN COMPANY

WWW.BROTHERSPESTMGMT.COM (612) 431- 7378

MOBILE TIRE RESCUE

mobiletirerescuer.com | 651.404.3620

Finally
A Team That Doesn't Let You Down.
digitalarchitects.
SEO · SOCIAL MEDIA · WEB DEVELOPMENT

THE VIKINGS CLASSIC HONORS TEAM'S LEGACY

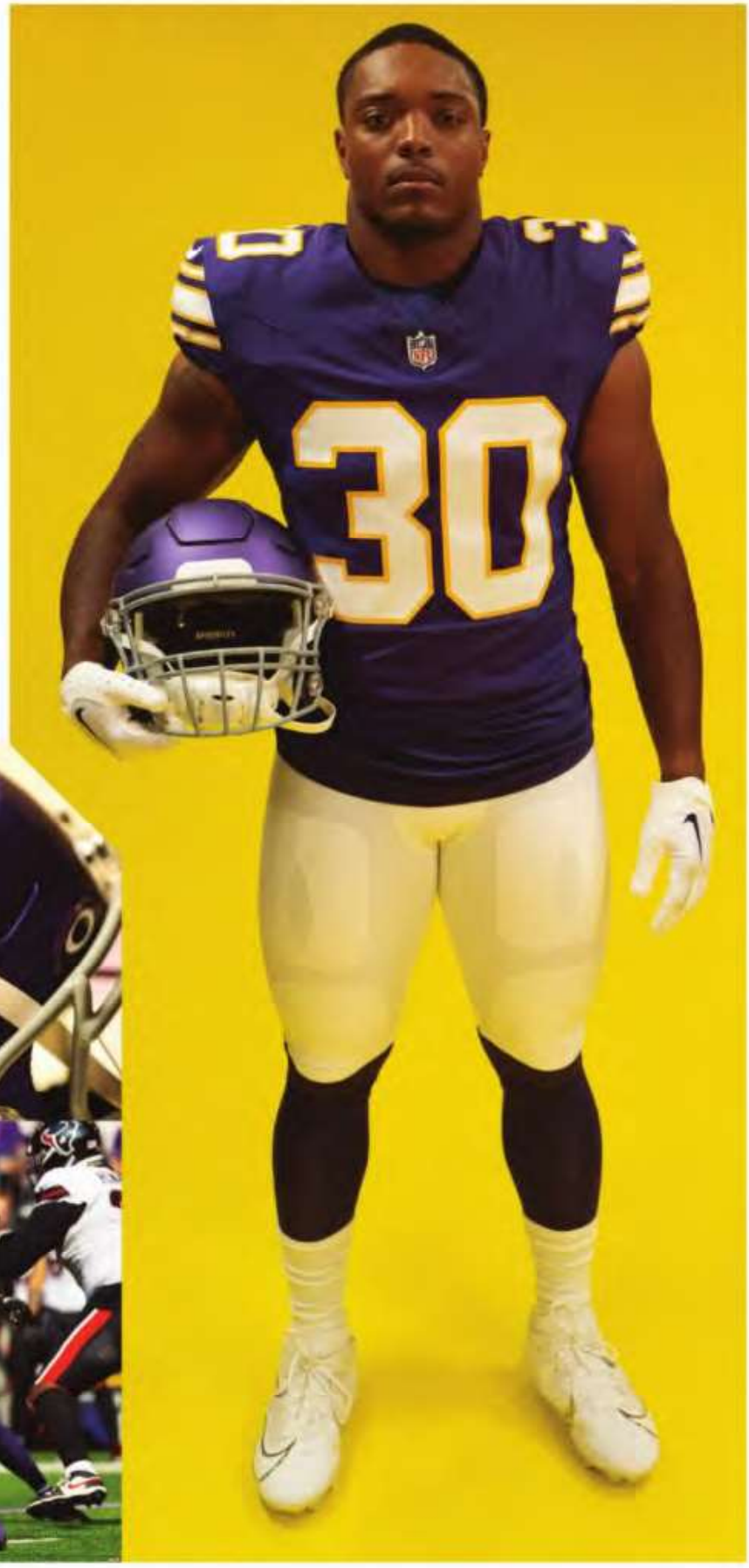
The Vikings Classic uniform launched in 2023 to pay homage to the team's earlier voyages with a deeper Purple hue than the modern jersey.

Elements include large numbers with traditional slab serif font and gold trim. Sleeves feature the original classic striping.

The Classic borrows design elements from some of the Vikings earliest uniforms. In addition to the jerseys, the look includes a vintage horn and gray facemasks on the helmets. The older version of the helmet horns is longer than the modern version.

White pants feature a vertical gold stripe flanked by purple stripes, a design worn by the Vikings through their first 45 seasons.

Visit the Minnesota Vikings Museum to learn more about the history of gear, uniform design and the origin of horns on the team's helmets.



WINTER WARRIOR SHOWCASES VIKINGS & ELEMENTS

A cold front hit Minnesota in June 2024 when the Vikings unveiled their "Winter Warrior" uniforms.

The uniforms feature white alternate jerseys and pants paired with the first usage of a white helmet in franchise history. The uniforms are accented with metallic gray, including the face mask, and purple.

The introduction of Winter Warrior capped a design process that started more than two years earlier with initial concepts by Vikings Senior Art Manager Jackie Ramacher. The Vikings debuted the "Winter Whiteout" uniforms during the 2022 season as a sort of market survey on the ultimate goal of a head-to-toe white look.

The Winter Warrior design goals were to emulate a "modern Viking' and embrace the frigid North. The uniforms feature a number of design elements inspired by ancient Viking culture and the Northern climate, including the cool-toned color palate and subtle variation on the standard jersey's numbers.

Also unique is a completely new finish for the helmet, which was developed through close collaboration with the Vikings, the NFL and Riddell. A metallic stripe was added to the center of the helmet as a modern interpretation of the riveted metal strips used in early battle helmets.

Two additional details include the VIKINGS wordmark on the chest of the jersey written in SKOL font, a pivot from the original Vikings script that traditionally has been used, and the Nordic knot design embroidered on the back neckline.

VIKINGS & U.S. BANK STADIUM RECOGNIZED AS NFL'S BEST

The fans have spoken, and they've ranked the U.S. Bank Stadium game-day experience as the best in the NFL.

The Vikings in February announced results of the 2024 "Voice of the Fan" NFL-wide survey, which ranked the Vikings and U.S. Bank Stadium as the best in "Overall Game-Day Satisfaction" last season. The team set an NFL record with the highest score the league's ever recorded in the overall category.

The Vikings also finished No. 1 and No. 2 in multiple areas, including Game Entertainment and Game-Day Staff.

"These incredible rankings reflect the dedication, energy and commitment of our entire staff as well as the collaboration with the MSFA, ASM, Aramark and all of our stadium partners," said Vikings Chief Operating Officer Andrew Miller. "We always seek to provide a world-class experience for Vikings fans, who we believe are the most passionate fans in the NFL, and we're honored they rated their experience positively with such record-breaking marks."

The "Voice of the Fan" survey measures NFL Season Ticket Member experiences and game attendees' satisfaction with their game-day experience. Each team's fans are surveyed throughout the regular season.

In 2024, Minnesota finished in the top 10 in eight of the nine primary categories. The Vikings demonstrated improvement in all measured areas compared to the 2023 season, making the most significant jumps in the following categories: Food & Beverage, Security, Game-Day Staff and Arrival & Departure.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS 2024 VOICE OF THE FAN OVERVIEW

- Overall (1st)
- Arrival (5th)
- Departure (3rd)
- Food & Beverage (5th)
- Game Entertainment (1st)
- Game-Day Staff (2nd)
- Mobile Ticketing (12th)
- Security (6th)
- Stadium Technology (9th)

Within the Game Entertainment portion of the survey, the Vikings finished in the top five in nine of the 10 categories:

- Overall (1st)
- Audio Prompts & Music (2nd)
- Crowd Energy (3rd)
- Family Friendly (1st)
- Game Breaks (4th)
- Halftime (8th)
- Pregame: Commons Park (5th)
- Pregame: On-Field (2nd)
- Team/Fan Rituals (1st)
- Video Board Content (1st)

"These game entertainment scores are truly about our people and our fans," said Vikings Vice President of Content & Production Bryan Harper. "While staff continue to innovate and challenge themselves to meet fan expectations, ultimately Vikings fans bring the energy on game days and embrace the traditions we established, and that's what drives our home-field advantage and the rankings we celebrate on an annual basis."

Within the Game-Day Staff section, U.S. Bank Stadium ranked No. 2 across nearly all categories:

- Overall (2nd)
- Food & Beverage Staff (2nd)
- Gate Entry Staff (2nd)
- Guest Services Staff (2nd)
- Parking Lot Staff (3rd)
- Security Staff (2nd)

"We couldn't achieve these results without the fantastic game day staff members who embody our SKOL Service philosophy," said Vikings Vice President of Stadium Operations J.P. Paul. "This recognition is a testament to their dedication and commitment to creating memorable experiences for Vikings fans at U.S. Bank Stadium."

SAFFRON CAPITAL
Registered Investment Advisor

Retirement Financial Plans
Bond Ladders for Steady Income
Risk-Managed Portfolios

Minnesota-based | Employee-owned

saffroncapital.com
612 - 227 - 2485

MY GRILLZ DID MY GRILLZ

1955 University Ave West
Ste 203
St Paul, MN 55104
612.735.7781
FlexYoGrill.com

GOCRAZYGAMINGTRUCK.COM
651.353.4859

ENA
LATIN FUSION CUISINE
4601 Grand Ave. S
Minneapolis, MN 55419
enampls.com • 612-824-4441

CUR
iv + wellness clinic
We offer medically assisted weight loss treatments using
SEMAGLUTIDE & TIRZEPATIDE

Our clients receive a personalized treatment plan tailored to their goals and needs.
CALL US NOW
651-900-5593
Come in and meet the team during a free consultation
Kimberly Grob, FNP
RidgeHill Professional Bldg
2000 Plymouth Rd, Suite 305
Minnetonka, MN 55305

LYON'S PUB
Minneapolis
est. 1954
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD BAR DOWNTOWN
One Block from Target Center - 16 South 6th Street

MINNESOTA VIKINGS CHEERLEADERS

ANNIE

BLAIZE

BRIANNA

CAITLIN

ELIZABETH

ELLA

EMMA

GRACE

HANNAH

JENNA

JENNI

JORDAN

KARLYN

KATE

KATHERINE

KAYLEE

KIARA

KIKI

LAUREN

LEXI

LOUIE

MARIS

MAYA

MORGAN

PAIGE

PAYTON

SABRINA

SAYLOR

SOON JI

TALIA

TATIANA

TAYLOR F.

TAYLOR H.

ZOE

GJALLARHORN

Since 2007, the Minnesota Vikings have sounded the Gjallarhorn before home games to signal the Vikings are coming and the start of a great battle on the gridiron.

Honorary Vikings have included celebrities, Vikings Legends, Olympians, fans and members of the military.

The tradition was joined by the SKOL Chant in 2016 with help from Pro Football Hall of Fame Head Coach Bud Grant, who sounded the current Gjallarhorn before the Vikings opened their home slate at U.S. Bank Stadium with a 17-14 win over the Packers on Sept. 18, 2016.

Produced by VEE Design, the fifth Gjallarhorn made since 2007 was carved from high-density EPS foam mounted to a steel substructure. It has a diameter of 4-foot-6 inches at its mouth and measures 18 feet long.

It is suspended from the rafters of U.S. Bank Stadium above a custom platform.

SKOL LINE

The Minnesota Vikings SKOL Line will celebrate its 18th season of providing entertainment for events and all Vikings home games in 2025.

Members of the SKOL Line have led the SKOL Chant at U.S. Bank Stadium since its inception in 2016, the venue's inaugural season.

Look for the Minnesota Vikings SKOL Line performing during each Vikings home game and at various special events throughout the year.

Be sure to check out the Minnesota Vikings SKOL Line official Instagram page to keep up with all of the latest happenings, including upcoming appearances, photos and videos. For questions, or if you are interested in having the SKOL Line appear at your next event, please email skolline@vikings.nfl.net.

The SKOL Line is presented by Hy-Vee with supporting sponsors: Groth Music, Pearl, Sabian, Remo and Innovative Percussion.

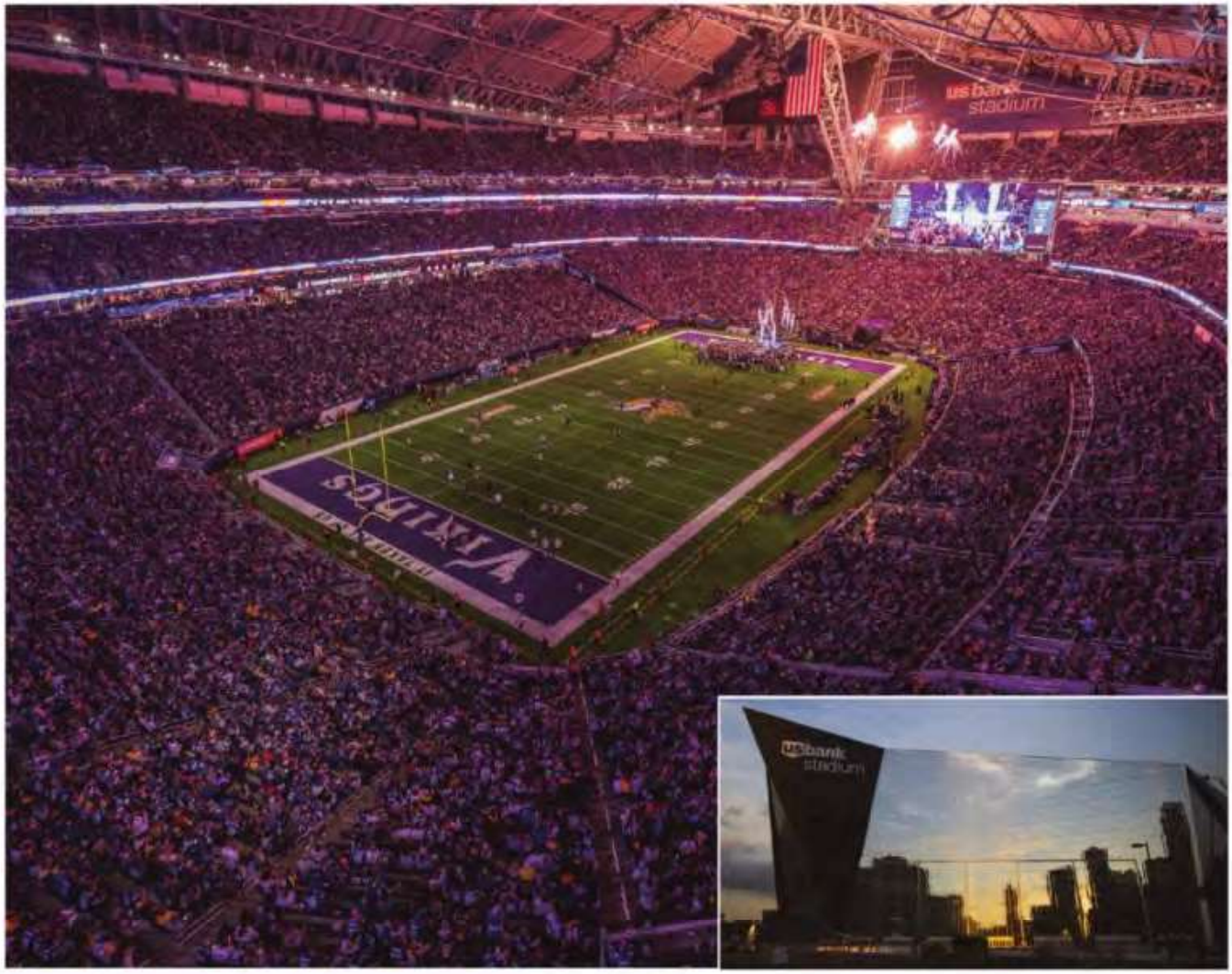
U.S. BANK STADIUM

From U.S. Bank Stadium's Inaugural Game, a 17-14 win by Minnesota over Green Bay in Week 2 of the 2016 season through the unforgettable Minneapolis Miracle and beyond, Vikings fans have provided a distinct home-field advantage.

Minnesota is 49-25 through eight regular seasons at the venue and claimed the first playoff game hosted at U.S. Bank Stadium in dramatic fashion. That .662 win percentage is tied for seventh in the NFL.

Three principles – an unprecedented design, a public-private partnership and creating a best-in-class fan experience – led the project from the first sketches through the bold stadium's completion and grand opening on July 22, 2016.

Enhancing fan experiences remains important as U.S. Bank Stadium prepares for its 10th season of Vikings football.



U.S. BANK STADIUM FACTS & FIGURES

- 1.75 million square feet (nearly twice the size of the Metrodome that it replaced)
- Rises 270 feet above street level at its westernmost and highest point
- Implemented the first use of transparent ETFE roofing material for a sports facility in the United States
- The West (8,160) and East (4,400) video boards total 12,560 square feet of 13HD technology
- 2,000 HD televisions are located throughout the stadium

LEGACY GATES

The Legacy Gates on the west end of the building utilize five of the world's largest pivoting doors. They range from 75 to 95 feet tall and are 55 feet wide. Each Legacy Gate weighs 57,000 pounds and contains 10 standard doors. The Legacy Gates can open or close in approximately eight minutes.

ART COLLECTION

U.S. Bank Stadium features more than 350 original pieces of fine art, 250 photographs and two concourse murals created by 40 artists, including 36 from Minnesota. The collection was inspired by the following three themes: celebrating the State of Minnesota, honoring Minnesota sports moments and saluting past and present Vikings.

Three Vikings Ring of Honor Members – Jim Marshall (painting), Carl Eller (sculpture) and Matt Blair (photography) – have works featured in U.S. Bank Stadium's collection.

SUPPORTING HIGH SCHOOL & YOUTH FOOTBALL

The Minnesota Vikings and Twin Cities Orthopedics are dedicated to supporting high school football in our community. Vikings Prep Spotlight began with the opening of TCO Performance Center and TCO Stadium in 2018. The ability to host high school and youth football events at the facility was a primary focus in the design of the campus.

Due to the success of Vikings Prep Spotlight and the interest level from schools, the program expanded in fall 2024 when TCO Stadium hosted seven games, including the first between 9-player teams. The 2025 matchups and dates were scheduled to be announced after this publication's deadline.

YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMPS, PRESENTED BY HY-VEE

Boys and girls ages 6-14 were eligible to participate in football camps presented by Hy-Vee and hosted by the Vikings around the region during the summer of 2025.

In addition to six one-day sessions across Minnesota (Zimmerman, Virginia, Willmar, St. Paul, Frazee and La Crescent), camps were also held in Fargo, North Dakota, and Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The Vikings additionally scheduled three clinics during training camp.

VIKINGS PREP SPOTLIGHT GAMES

2018 REGULAR SEASON
Farmington 41, Eagan 28
Lakeville North 38, Prior Lake 3

2018 STATE QUARTERFINALS
Lakeville North 35, St. Michael/Albertville 8
Owatonna 42, Chaska 27
Elk River 23, Spring Lake Park 21

2019 REGULAR SEASON
Eden Prairie 14, Shakopee 6
Chaska 21, Apple Valley 0
Mankato West 58, Rochester Mayo 21

2021 REGULAR SEASON
Waconia 20, Robbinsdale Cooper 14
Saint Thomas Academy 41, Cretin-Derham Hall 14

2022 REGULAR SEASON
East Ridge 54, Hopkins 6
Chanhassen 35, Bloomington Jefferson 21

2023 REGULAR SEASON
Two Rivers 49, St. Paul Harding-Humboldt 8
Hill-Murray 58, Richfield 14

2024 REGULAR SEASON AT TCO STADIUM
Simley 17, South St. Paul 16*
Stephen-Argyle 57, Norman County East/Ulen-Hitterdal 24**
St. Anthony Village 39, Breck School 7
St. Thomas Academy 24, Cretin-Derham Hall 6
East Ridge 54, Woodbury 7
Monticello 36, Park Center 0
St. Agnes 21, St. Croix Lutheran 0

** Vikings Prep Spotlight broadcast*
*** 9-player matchup and Vikings Prep Spotlight broadcast*

GATORADE PREP ELITE CAMP

Gatorade Prep Elite is a one-day, invite only football camp led by Vikings Legends, Vikings coaches and staff to provide in-depth instruction to prep players about football skills, film study, nutrition, strength and conditioning, and more. More than 60 of the state's top high school players participated in 2025.

OFFICIALS RECOGNIZED

Minnesota-based high school officiating crew members Pete D. Cheeley, Patrick Bergquist, MJ Wagenson, Kevin Britt and Dennis Harris were selected as the High School Officiating Crew of the Year for their performance and contributions to the Minnesota State High School League during the 2024 season. The crew was sent to the Pro Bowl Games and hosted at Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center as part of its recognition.

VIKINGS HOST GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL TOURNEY

MAHTOMEDI WINS INAUGURAL STATE TITLE

A dozen girls high school flag football teams competed as the Vikings hosted the inaugural state title, which Mahtomedi claimed with a 36-20 victory over La Crescent-Hokah at TCO Stadium on June 9.

Young women on the sideline sprinted to meet their teammates on the field in a celebratory mob, lifting the black-and-silver trophy above their heads in triumph.

"This means everything for them," Mahtomedi Head Coach Nick Sullivan said. "Everything that we do, and all the success, it's for them."

Trailblazers.

It's true of the Zephyrs, who became the first team in state history to officially win the girls high school flag football championship.

It's true also, though, of 50 – 50! – other teams that competed this season. After helping launch a pilot program in 2024 with four teams (La Crescent-Hokah, Rosemount, Houston and Pine Island), the Vikings in 2025 looked to expand to a full league – and expand they did.

"It's just been so cool to see the growth," La Crescent-Hokah senior Savanah Klinski said prior to the final game. "The number of people who have been out here today, it's just been amazing. Last year we were just a small little group, and now the bleachers are filled. It's incredible."

Klinski caught two touchdown passes and a 2-point conversion in the championship game; she earlier helped lead the Lancers to wins over Two Rivers (33-12) and Centennial (24-6). The Zephyrs, quarterbacked by Rylee Bogren, defeated Bloomington and Park (in Cottage Grove) with identical scores of 32-0 en route to facing La Crescent-Hokah in the final.

Mahtomedi senior Presley Albers scored the Zephyrs final touchdown of the evening.

"We all grew up watching football with our family, and just to see women [playing football and] little girls can look up to them and know they can do whatever they want, it's special," Albers said.

Competition on the field was fierce but off the field, the athletes share an unmistakable mutual respect.

"Everyone was really starting with a clean slate," Vikings Coordinator of Youth & High School Football Emily Weinberg said. "Seeing them build each other up throughout the season and start this sport from the ground up has been incredible.

"I've always known that I loved football, and seeing this girls flag football season come to fruition has made me love it even more. The more people that we're able to get in the game, the merrier. And this is great proof of that," Weinberg added. "One of our goals is to be sure everyone feels welcome here, emphasize that everyone is able to play football. By hosting this culminating championship here at our facility, it really shows just how committed to this game the Vikings are."

Lancers Head Coach Terry Donovan, who also serves as the La Crescent-Hokah Activities Director, and Sullivan, who also is a Mahtomedi student resource officer, shared similar sentiments about the value of growing girls flag football in Minnesota.

"I've seen incredible growth in these girls. I mean, they just keep getting better and better," Donovan said. "Everything we've done, they respond and succeed. Being able to have the Vikings help, supporting financially and in every other way, makes it super special.

"Football is for everyone," added Donovan, a USA Football master trainer. "We know football is for everyone. These girls are showing this is high-level football out here."

Sullivan shared a personal anecdote to reiterate the importance of making football inclusive.

"When I was in middle school, there was a girl who played on our tackle football team, Mary, and she was phenomenal," Sullivan said. "There's always been this hesitancy to football with a lot of our girls ... where a lot of them don't want to get out there because they're nervous [or they've previously felt excluded], but they belong. This league, and all its success, it shows that this sport is meant for them."

VIKINGS LAUNCH COLLEGE WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Second-half comeback, red-zone fourth down, overtime and double elimination under the lights.

Minnesota's inaugural collegiate women's flag football season couldn't have had a better concluding tournament.

The Vikings helped seven NCAA institutions make history this spring when they launched the first-of-its kind league. The inaugural season featured Saturday jamborees at the University of Northwestern – St. Paul and the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and culminated April 26 with a championship tournament at TCO Stadium.

"It's such an amazing experience for girls to not only experience what people typically stereotype as a 'men's sport,' but I also think it's been a great opportunity to grow and push ourselves to do things maybe we weren't able to do in high school," Augustana senior Mia Frank said.

Frank was part of a resilient Augustana University team that lost its first game to UW-Stout but then defeated Bethel University and Concordia Moorhead to work through the consolation bracket and rematch against Stout in the championship.

Frank helped lead the Augustana Vikings on a second-half comeback to force the game into overtime and secure a nail-biting win; because the tournament was double-elimination, however, Augustana and Stout had to immediately play each other a third time against a setting sun.

Ultimately, the Blue Devils pulled away with the title.

Though the Vikings fell just short of the championship trophy, Frank is so thankful to have participated in the inaugural season.

"I played competitive sports all through middle school, though high school, and honestly, I just knew it was going to be a great opportunity to – one, just put myself back out there, have fun with a bunch of other girls, and then also just play competitively again," Frank said. "It's been such an amazing experience. I'm so lucky to have such an amazing team, and I think it's one of the most brilliant things [that's happened] recently."

Ava Sylvester, a freshman at Concordia Moorhead who also played soccer for the Cobbers, echoed the sentiments of multiple women and noted she jumped at the opportunity to get involved with the startup flag league.

Sylvester recalled growing up as a committed Vikings fan, watching games with her dad and falling in love with football early on – but not having an outlet to play the way her brothers did.

"When I heard this was happening, I was like, 'Oh my gosh. This is amazing!' I wanted to be part of it so bad," she said. "And I feel like this is so important because now younger generations can [look forward to it], as well."

Adalyn Lehman is nearing the end of her time at Stout, currently studying as a grad student, and couldn't imagine a better way to wrap up her college career.

After growing up playing basketball and running cross country and track, Lehman called flag football "the perfect opportunity" to try something new and build additional relationships within the female athletics community.

"Of course sports are very competitive, and on the field, you see that, but afterwards, I think us all sharing the common goal of trying something new and having fun is really cool," Lehman said.

Stout teammate Mia Schmoll, a junior, called it the "highlight of my year" to connect with other teams throughout the season and culminate with a tournament at the Vikings practice facility.

"The whole day has been so fun and a lot of really competitive, close games," Schmoll said.

Vikings Vice President of Social Impact Brett Taber, who took in the jamboree along with his 7-year-old son, called the inaugural season a "resounding success" with tremendous potential for growth.

"The Minnesota Vikings are proud to help create opportunities for these athletes, and collectively, they put on an incredible display of passion and athleticism," Taber said. "The championship tournament at TCO Stadium was exhilarating on every play, and it is clear that flag football in our region has only just begun."

HABANERO TACOS

A DELICIOUS MEXICAN PLACE THAT YOU'LL ENJOY AS MUCH AS THE GAMES.

CALL US: 612-501-6929

ST PAUL
80 SNELLING AVE N

MINNEAPOLIS
3223 E LAKE ST

OSSEO MEAT MARKET
the Old Fashioned Meat Market

HEADQUARTERS FOR GAME DAY AND EVERYDAY

Your Local Source for Premium Meats

In business for more than 150 years!!!

- Homemade jerky & beef sticks - over 30 flavors to choose from!
- Homemade sausages - over 50 kinds of sausage to choose from!
- Amazing fresh meat selection - aged beef, our famous ground beef, large pork selection & amish chicken
- Deli catering for events

344 County Road 81
Osseo, MN 55369
763-425-2215
OsseoMeatMarket

MINNESOTA INDIAN WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER

The Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC) works with clients and partners to deliver a comprehensive array of services and maintain an extensive referral network to fully meet the needs of the women and families we serve.

Help us help others

Donate Today

miwrc.org

JAM SPORTS AND APPAREL

YOUR LOCAL SPORTS AND SPIRIT WEAR STORE

- SCREEN PRINTING & EMBROIDERY
- SPORTS EQUIPMENT
- CUSTOM BANNERS
- TEAM APPAREL & UNIFORMS
- IN-HOUSE GRAPHIC DESIGN
- CORPORATE APPAREL

ELEVATE YOUR GAME. EXPRESS YOUR STYLE.

WWW.STMANES.COM 612-722-1447 INFO@STMANES.COM
4159 S 28TH AVE MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55406

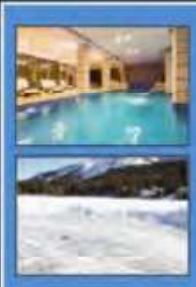
AMERECT

STEEL & PRECAST ERECTORS

AMERECT, INC.

1110 SEVENTH AVENUE, NEWPORT, MN 55055
651.459.9909 | WWW.AMERECTINC.COM

ERECTORS OF STRUCTURAL STEEL, MISCELLANEOUS METALS, ORNAMENTAL IRON, ARCHITECTURAL PRECAST, AND PLANT MAINTENANCE



MIDWEST WATER SUPPLY

Bulk Water Delivery · Pools · Rinks · Spas
Construction · Hot Tub Drain-Clean-Refill

Call or text 651-470-8023

Midwestwatersupply.com

info@midwestwatersupply.com

Serving the greater Minneapolis St Paul Metro area

He has the largest mustache in the NFL.
He taught Tony Hawk everything he knows.
He is a peewee football team's worst nightmare.
He is... Viktor the Viking.

Come and listen – if you dare (please dare) – to the story of the most valiant, vibrant, velvety Viking this side of Valhalla. They say if you listen closely on a cold winter night you can hear his name on the wind. They also say eating carrots helps you see in the dark. They say a lot of things. But one thing is certain: we all feel a little bit brighter when Viktor is around. Maybe it's his knack for making children laugh, or his dazzling feats of physical prowess. Maybe it's just the fact that he literally can't not smile. Whatever it is, it's working.

Viktor is a Minnesotan's Minnesotan. He loves hotdish, lives for cold weather, and plays duck, duck, gray duck. He was found frozen in the ice of Lake Superior after thousands of years. When people thawed him out, all he asked for was a Juicy Lucy and Prince's greatest hits. Scientists and doctors agree that he inspired the phrase "Minnesota Nice."

Viktor has a big mustache and an even bigger heart. The only thing he likes more than a Vikings victory is spending time with his friends in the community (that includes you, dear reader). Unlike other mascots, Viktor can speak – he just chooses not to. When I asked him why, he told me he "doesn't care for small talk." Before I could respond, he was gone and so was my wallet. When he gave it back, I knew the only thing he had stolen was my heart.

Whatever you're looking for in a mascot, Viktor the Viking has it. The ability to motivate a crowd? SKOL! Dance moves? Yes ma'am. The scent of a thousand pleasant memories from your childhood? You tell me.

Viktor is a mascot of the people. He puts the team first, and as a Vikings fan, you are part of that team (Viktor would draft you first overall). If you need anything from him, or you simply want to say hi to your favorite mustache, shoot him a text. Send the word "yearbook" to 651-433-7565. Go ahead, do it. You made it this far. He's waiting for you.

Keljik Oriental Rugs
Since 1899
Cleaning, Repair, Pads & Sales
Of Oriental Rugs
612-823-6338

Excelsior
CANDLE CO.
100% Soy Wax Candles
Local & Woman Owned
Corporate Gifting & Private Label
Candles Available
excelsiorcandleco.com

Sports Page
BAR GRILL
BLOOMINGTON
SPORTS PAGE
BAR & GRILL
9014 LYNDALE AVE SOUTH
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420
952.887.0046 • SPORTSPAGEBLOOMINGTON.COM

TELEHANDLERS
SCISSOR LIFTS
BOOM LIFTS
Rentals Sales Service Training
APi SUPPLY LIFTS
MINNEAPOLIS 612-379-8000 apilifts.com
BRAINERD 218-824-0440
ROCHESTER 507-287-8878
DULUTH 218-355-0311 apilifts.com

est. 1972 savage, mn
WINDMILL CAFE
OLD-FASHIONED,
FAMILY-OPERATED DINER
Homestyle Breakfast &
Lunch Classics Daily
Hours: 6am to 2pm
5367 State Hwy 13 • Savage, MN

SWIFT cycle
CAPABLE • POWERFUL • ACHIEVABLE
www.swiftcyclestudio.com

American Structural Metals, Inc.
MMF
Miscellaneous Metal Fabricators, Inc.
Structural Steel Fabrication ~ Ornamental Stairs & Rails
PH: 715-247-5950 ~ estimating@asm-mmf.com

The Minnesota Original
tropical sno
TropicalSnoMN
SNO ON THE GO
or visit our Burnsville Shop!
12735 County Road 5, Burnsville, MN 55337 | 612.271.4381 | TropicalSnoMN@gmail.com

Ready
FEMA
ad
PROTECT
YOUR LEGACY
PLAN
FOR EMERGENCIES TODAY
VISIT
READY.GOV/PLAN
MAKE
A family communications plan
SIGN UP
For local weather & emergency alerts
PREPARE
An emergency kit

Custom DRYWALL
CUSTOM DRYWALL INC.
Drywall • Light Gauge Framing
Fireproofing • Insulation
Spray Foam Insulation
Stucco • Air Barrier • Lath and Plaster
Exterior Finish Systems
488 Atwater Circle • St. Paul, MN 55103
651.488.0533 • www.customdrywall.net

Smokey Bear is within us all.
For wildfire prevention tips, visit
SmokeyBear.com
ad

2024 VIKINGS UNIFIED FLAG FOOTBALL

1-HANDED CATCH & 1-OF-A-KIND TRIP

Tremendous teamwork and sportsmanship were displayed throughout the day.

That doesn't mean the Minnetonka Blues, playing as the 2024 Minnesota Vikings Unified Flag Football Team thanks to a sponsorship by Twin Cities Orthopedics, didn't enjoy watching their highlights.

The replay from Minnesota's 33-18 win over a team sponsored by Jacksonville began with Matt Olive's one-handed catch. He reached behind himself while running a shallow crossing route but kept his momentum going as he secured the pass from Dustin Delfs. Olive turned smoothly and cruised for the first touchdown of the game.

"Voice of the Vikings" Paul Allen met the group in a lounge at the team hotel shortly after the NFL version of the Vikings arrived in downtown Jacksonville. He pulled up the play on Olive's phone and delivered a call to go with it.

"Vikings Unified with the ball against Jacksonville. Dustin Delfs, he fires over the middle to Matt Olive, who gets the edge at the 30, inside the 20, and HE'S LOOSE! TOUCHDOWN UNIFIED!"

Allen appreciated the opportunity to connect with the Vikings Unified Team for several minutes, cracking jokes with players and congratulating them for their success.

Olive also caught Minnesota's second touchdown of the day on a pass from Joe Konietzko and threw the team's final score on a deep pass to Adam LeDuc. Konietzko threw two touchdown passes and caught another.

The group took part in a signing day ceremony during Vikings Training Camp, complete with appearances by Vikings Head Coach Kevin O'Connell and defensive lineman Harrison Phillips. The team also participated in practices and a scrimmage against a team of TCO and Training HAUS employees after a press conference at TCO Studios in which Vikings and TCO and Training HAUS employees asked questions of athletes and coaches who stepped up to the podium.

"At TCO, we're proud to stand behind the Vikings Unified Team, supporting these incredible athletes who truly embody the spirit of teamwork and inclusion," said TCO Chief Marketing Officer Heather Lang. "Through our partnership with the Minnesota Vikings and Special Olympics Minnesota, we are dedicated to creating spaces where every athlete feels valued and celebrated.

"This journey is about more than the game; it is about fostering a community that champions every athlete, and we're honored to play a part in this meaningful mission," Lang added.

The preparations, including the issuing of team gear, built up to the team flying from Minnesota to Florida on Nov. 8 for the unforgettable weekend.

Unified athlete Johnny King mentioned before the contest that he doesn't "like to eat a lot of breakfast before games because I like to stay hungry for the competition."

Vikings Legend Fernando Smith (who also played for the Jaguars and lives in Orlando, Florida) and Jaguars Legend Marcus Stroud attended the Unified Bowl to show their support.

Smith noted the talent of the participants and their enjoyment.

"I wish every team around the league had teams for this," Smith said. "That would be cool."

In addition to his touchdown catch, LeDuc recorded a sack and a pass breakup.

"It's been a once-in-a-lifetime experience," assistant coach Mike Konietzko said. "I think they had a little bit of adrenaline, and that's why they were tossing the ball harder than usual, but they settled in and got some good passes, so it was a lot of fun."

The teams participated in a jersey swap after the game and attended lunch together at a family entertainment center that featured bowling, laser tag and arcade games.

The next day, both Unified Teams were recognized on the stadium's video board during the Vikings-Jaguars Week 10 game.

The experience marked the fourth time the Vikings have sent a Unified Flag Football Team to a road game since the program began in 2019.

"The Vikings Unified Team is an amazing experience, and we are so grateful for our partnership with the Vikings and Twin Cities Orthopedics," said Special Olympics Minnesota Vice President of Development Relations Mark Anderson. "The Vikings Unified Team is provided with an opportunity that the team members will remember for their entire lives. The friendships and impact that are created through this program are life changing."

KHYREE'S LOCKER

KHYREE JACKSON'S PARENTS LAUNCH FOUNDATION IN HIS HONOR

Ebbony and Raymond Jackson are honoring the memory of their son in a deeply meaningful way.

In April, they officially launched the Khyree Jackson Foundation – nine months after Khyree tragically passed away in a car accident. The Vikings had selected the cornerback in the fourth round of the 2024 NFL Draft.

The Khyree Jackson Foundation aims to inspire the next generation of young athletes and students to use their talents to positively influence their communities.

"It's about making a difference and encouraging young people to embrace their journey and rise above challenges to make an impact in this world, just as Khyree did," Ebbony said.

The Vikings honored Khyree in several ways after his passing, including the wearing of "KJ" helmet decals and lapel pins during the season and leaving his locker at TCO Performance Center untouched. Throughout the 2024 campaign, Aaron Jones, Sr., and other teammates placed fresh flowers there in remembrance and respect.

In preparation for the team's offseason program, the Vikings invited the Jackson family to collect Khyree's belongings from his locker and share their plans for the foundation with staff, coaches and teammates. Among those present to embrace the Jacksons were Vikings General Manager Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, Head Coach Kevin O'Connell, Defensive Coordinator Brian Flores, Special Teams Coordinator Matt Daniels, Assistant Special Teams Coordinator Dalmin Gibson and Defensive Backs Coach Daronte Jones. Running back Zavier Scott, who joined Minnesota's practice squad last year, also attended.

"This was more than a locker," O'Connell tenderly told a tearful Ebbony and Raymond as the group circled around the space, a bouquet of dried roses still lying near the assortment of T-shirts, shorts and other items of Khyree's.

"The pins, the stickers on the helmets, that was really for everybody else, just to make sure they knew there was so much being felt in this building. Our connection to you guys as a family, your willingness during an incredibly difficult time to let us grieve along with you," O'Connell said. "But also to be so proud of Khyree. Be so proud of the journey he had been on to get to this moment. And his teammates showed a relentless commitment to make him a part of what was a really special year for our team.

"From the very beginning, he had an impact on that," O'Connell continued. "We made sure, and more importantly, his teammates made sure, that it was maintained all the way through the season.

"Your family will always be a part of our family," he added.

Ebbony and Raymond expressed sincere gratitude to the Vikings organization that Khyree had been so excited to be drafted by. Though a deeply emotional afternoon, they were proud to share that the Khyree Jackson Foundation will utilize football camps, scholarships and community outreach to support children and families – with a focus on underserved communities.

They explained the foundation will strive to help youth live up to Khyree's motto, "God didn't give me these skills to go to waste."

O'Connell, who spoke at Khyree's funeral and on many occasions emphasized his incredible work ethic, shared that the Vikings are committing a $10,000 donation to the foundation.

"Some of us got to know each other under very tough circumstances, but the love from our organization for you and your family and Khyree will be something that we cherish forever," he said. "We just want to thank you and your family for allowing us to be a part of his life; we feel so fortunate to have selected him and brought him here to be a Minnesota Viking."

On the day the Jacksons unpacked Khyree's locker at the Vikings facility, they also introduced one of the foundation's core initiatives – a traveling memorial locker called "Khyree's Locker of Hope" filled with football gear, courtesy of SCHEELS in Eden Prairie.

"Khyree believed in the power of sports to transform lives, and we want to carry on his belief by giving kids the opportunity to succeed," Raymond said.

Eight young members of a local Boys & Girls Club joined the Jacksons at TCO Performance Center and were gifted the football gear, marking a powerful moment in the family's journey to carry forward their son's legacy.

The Jacksons plan to take Khyree's Locker of Hope to underserved neighborhoods in their home state of Maryland to impact more youth.

VIKINGS VETS & 2025 ROOKIES TEAM UP TO GIVE BACK

Football and reading, what more could one ask for?

Donovan Jackson thought as much in May when he joined rookie teammates for "Team Up to Give Back," the Vikings annual event focused on Twin Cities youth.

Jackson, drafted 24th overall in the 2025 NFL Draft by Minnesota, eagerly joined Bryn Mawr Elementary School students in perusing the Scholastic Books pop-up shelves.

"Man, I used to tear through book fairs," he laughed. "My mom was a teacher, so I was always there after school ... [I went to] all the book fairs. *Diary of a Whimpy Kid*, *Captain Underpants*. A couple kids here were choosing Bluey books, and they were putting me on to that. It was pretty cool."

Jackson enjoyed spending the late morning investing in his new community.

He recalled being a youngster himself and looking up to professional athletes, particularly NFL players.

"I think it's really cool that I can be the one to give back now," Jackson said.

While he and draft classmate Gavin Bartholomew hung out at the reading station, other Vikings rookies joined U.S. Bank and Vikings staff members in guiding students through various football drills in TCO Stadium or joined them in visiting the Vikings Table food truck, as well as facepainting and balloon animal stations.

The Vikings rookies may not have been in Minnesota long, but they've already noted the locker room culture and emphasis on high character.

"The veterans in the room set a great example for us," Jackson said.

Vikings Head Coach Kevin O'Connell met with the Bryn Mawr students during their visit and talked about the importance of connecting with the community. He also encouraged the young people to stay focused in school and continue pursuing their dreams, whether that be making it to the NFL, becoming a veterinarian or learning to be a teacher.

"One of my favorite things to do growing up was reading. I learned a lot of things that now actually help me be the head coach of the Minnesota Vikings, believe it or not – how I talk to my players, my coaches, how I communicate with other people in this building," O'Connell said. "Reading is so important. You guys get the opportunity to be [here today], get three new books, and that's great, but the best thing you all get is a chance to go to school every single day."

Gesturing toward the teachers scattered throughout the group, O'Connell invited the students to join him in applauding and recognizing their impact.

"I am so blessed and fortunate to be the head coach of the Minnesota Vikings, but when I was growing up, some of my best mentors ... were my teachers," O'Connell said. "So never miss out on a chance to do two things – listen and learn from your teachers, but don't be afraid to say, 'Thank you for pouring into me, for helping me become what I want to be when I grow up.' "

A similar message was later given by defensive lineman Harrison Phillips, who helped welcome classes from the American Indian Magnet School.

Other non-rookies who spent time with students included C.J. Ham, Walter Rouse, Levi Drake Rodriguez and Aaron Jones, Sr.

"All the laughs, all the smiles, all the high-fives, it's awesome," Rodriguez said. "We're having an absolute blast hanging out.

"This is a job, yes, but coming out here and [helping kids] put a face to our names is tremendous, just to make that impact, make that impression," he added. "I was just talking to some kids, asking them, 'You want to go to the NFL? You can do it. You have to put your heart, soul and mind into it.' [Encouraging] their dreams and what they want in life, that's special."

PREDIABETES CAPTURES 1-IN-3 ADULTS. BUT YOU CAN ESCAPE.

You can reverse prediabetes and prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. Take the 1-minute risk test today.

Be your own hero at DoIHavePrediabetes.org

ad COUNCIL

CDC

CRUCIAL CATCH

HONORING CANCER SURVIVORS & PAYING TRIBUTES

The NFL's Crucial Catch mission is to fight cancer through early detection and risk reduction. The league, its clubs, players, the NFL Players Association and the American Cancer Society are committed to providing individuals with the tools they need to help them better understand early detection and ways to reduce cancer risk.

Clubs host a Crucial Catch-themed home game each season in honor of cancer survivors, those currently battling cancer and caregivers.

Players and coaches wear specially designed Crucial Catch gear on the sidelines, which is then auctioned to raise funds to fight cancer.

Whether directly or indirectly, cancer affects everyone.

All of us know a family member, friend or acquaintance who has battled – or is currently battling – the disease.

Fullback C.J. Ham has shared the legacy of his mother, Tina, who courageously fought pancreatic cancer before passing away in May 2020 at the age of 57. Ham was selected as the 2024 Vikings Community Man of the Year.

Offensive lineman Blake Brandel also lost his grandmother to cancer, and defensive tackle Harrison Phillips lost his aunt to brain cancer.

For many, seeing the Crucial Catch logo painted on the field each season hits close to home.

Ham especially remembers the 2019 Crucial Catch game in which he wore custom-designed cleats for Tina.

"It's always been important in the sense that cancer is a disease that a lot of people have to deal with and is a very serious thing," Ham added. "But when my mom was diagnosed, it became even more important to me ... when it happens to you, it means a little bit more."

C.J. and his wife Stephanie have turned that tragic loss into a way to support others by hosting a "Pamper Her Purple" event for the past four years.

Since 2009, the NFL has raised more than $30 million for the American Cancer Society, and more than 760,000 cancer screenings have been supported.

RESOURCES

National Cancer Information Helpline	For More Information:
800.227.2345	crucialcatch.cancer.org

#Dadication
&
ACF
ad
COUNCIL
fatherhood.gov

SALUTE TO SERVICE

The National Football League, its clubs and players proudly celebrate Salute to Service, a year-round effort to honor, empower and connect with our nation's service members, veterans and their families.

Every year, Salute to Service initiatives are highlighted during games from Weeks 9-11 (Minnesota's home Salute to Service game was held in Week 13 on Dec. 1, 2024, because of scheduling). Since 2011, more than $73 million has been raised for the NFL's Salute to Service partners.

In partnership with five core Salute to Service partners, the NFL aims to positively impact the lives of many in the military community. These partners include: the Pat Tillman Foundation (PTF), Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), United Service Organizations (USO), Bob Woodruff Foundation (BWF), and Wounded Warrior Project (WWP).

VETERANS VOYAGE

SGT. Keith Robinson, MSG. Joshua Riviere, SSG. Troy Johnson, SSG. Timothy Nelson and SGT. John Kriesel are proud of their selfless service – and they should be.

The five veterans were recognized through the 2024 Hy-Vee Veterans Voyage program that shows appreciation by sending military members and guests to a Vikings road game. The group also was recognized at Minnesota's Salute to Service game and presented free groceries for a year.

The 2024 experience included a trip to New York City in Week 1 to visit the 9-11 Memorial dedicated to those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

That tragic day sent a ripple effect across what so many service members would be asked to do; visiting the Memorial provided a closure that comes with paying respects.

"The thing about 9-11, if you were mentally able, old enough, everybody remembers where they were that day," said Riviere, who accompanied his father Paul, a Vietnam veteran. Joshua Riviere enlisted in June 2001 and was on a missile range at Fort Benning (now Fort Moore), Georgia, undergoing basic training when the attack occurred.

Nelson, who enlisted in 2000, underwent infantry training and airborne school before transitioning to an assignment with "The Old Guard," which included ceremonial assignments at the White House, Pentagon and Arlington National Cemetery.

He was at Fort Myer, Virginia, when he heard the plane crash into the Pentagon. After four years with The Old Guard, Nelson enlisted with the Minnesota Army National Guard and was in a military vehicle with Kriesel that hit an IED (improvised explosive device) in Iraq on Dec. 2, 2006. Two squad members – Bryan McDonough and Corey Rystad – died in the blast, and Kriesel lost both legs.

"I was pretty sure my life was going to end," Kriesel recalled. "I remember trying to stay calm, obviously being in shock, but my buddies that were in the vehicle ahead of me ... performed body aid to keep me stable until the med-evac helicopter got there. Thirty-five surgeries later, I'm back in Minnesota living the dream. Life is good."

Nelson was able to recover in Iraq and return to service; Kriesel, who had enlisted on his 17th birthday, persevered through nine months at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Dec. 2 is now observed as "Alive Day" by Kriesel and Nelson.

Johnson went on active duty orders the day his first son was born (five-and-a-half weeks premature). He served two deployments with the Minnesota Army National Guard (2005-07 and in 2011) and later deployed to Qatar as a firefighter with the Air National Guard. Johnson's wife Molly also is a veteran.

Robinson's brother Alexander spent time with the Vikings as an undrafted running back from Iowa State in 2011. Their father had served as a drill sergeant.

Robinson's first combat tour was in Iraq in 2006 as a medic, and he completed two more tours of duty before his military career was cut short after 17 years. He needed a total hip replacement at age 39 due to injuries suffered in the line of duty.

SALUTE TO SERVICE AWARD

Vikings running back Aaron Jones, Sr., proudly carried an American flag from the tunnel to the field before Minnesota's 2024 Salute to Service game. His late father, Alvin, Sr., and his mother, Vurgess, each served in the military.

Jones and his twin brother Alvin, Jr., created the A&A All the Way Foundation to support youth by providing needs, as well as recreation and fitness opportunities, with an emphasis on supporting children in military families.

Jones was chosen as Minnesota's 2024 Salute to Service Award recipient.

Communities In Schools®

In Schools and Beyond

This year, there are more students like Alina who need extra support whether they are learning in school or at home. At Communities In Schools, our trained professionals help ensure all kids have the same opportunity to succeed. We go wherever we're needed to connect them with resources like supplies, technology, mentoring and counseling.

Learn how you can support students like Alina:
CommunitiesInSchools.org

© 2020 Communities In Schools, Inc.

VIKINGS TABLE

J.J. McCARTHY HELPS VIKINGS TABLE DELIVER 100,000TH MEAL

J.J. McCarthy successfully made his first handoffs – and provided his first highlight – of 2025.

The Vikings second-year quarterback and his fiancée Katya joined the Vikings Table food truck powered by Xcel Energy at YouthLink's Drop-In Center to distribute meals to teens and young adults in March.

The meals distributed included some that were packaged for later use, including one in a gold bag to commemorate the 100,000th meal delivered since Vikings Table's mission launched in summer 2019. Those meals were delivered to YouthLink in a new refrigerated van that will enable increased flexibility for continuing to reach people who can benefit from a good meal.

McCarthy then lined up alongside Xcel Energy Senior Vice President/Chief Communications Officer Rob Clark to hand off Southwest-themed bowls featuring a choice of chicken, spicy chicken, beef or vegetarian options from the Vikings Table food truck.

"The handoffs were great," McCarthy said. "I believe the recipients of the handoffs were even better."

Clark said the event was a wonderful way to continue the partnership between Xcel Energy and the Minnesota Vikings Foundation.

"[The 100,000th meal] is a great milestone. It's a very visible sign of the great partnership we have," Clark said. "Unfortunately, what it means is we've got food insecurity issues in our community. We're going to continue to be focused on that. We've re-upped our partnership to do this.

"We want to make sure we continue to serve those in the community that need it," Clark added. "We would love to see food insecurity go away entirely, but until then, we're going to continue to do what we can to make sure people have access to food they need."

Less than a year after Minnesota selected McCarthy with the 10th overall pick of the 2024 NFL Draft, he's expanded his efforts to make a difference in this community, even on windy, chilly days.

"It's really special, being a Midwest kid and being able to relate to the four seasons and things not being sunny every single day," McCarthy said. "It's really awesome to be able to build those relationships and that connection to the city, a real heartbeat of the city. It's awesome every opportunity I get, and I relish every moment."

YouthLink serves young people aged 16 to 24 who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness in the Twin Cities.

Darian Rosenthal, a YouthLink client, enjoyed meeting McCarthy. He exuded enthusiasm at the opportunity to talk football with the QB.

"It's been an honor, a blessing," Rosenthal said. "He's going to do good this year. I have faith in him. I was just giving him congratulations on his season."

Rosenthal said YouthLink "helps me achieve things I couldn't do on my own."

"It helps with housing and a stable environment to live through and build from," he added.

And on a Tuesday in March, it provided him with a memory and a memento. McCarthy removed his No. 9 jersey, autographed it and presented it to Rosenthal, adding to the ways he connected with YouthLink clients and staff.

YouthLink Drop-In Center Youth Services Director Ko Quaye has been with the organization for more than two years. He said the optional space serves more than 120 teens and young adults daily at its 41 North 12th Street location in Minneapolis.

"Last year about 20,000 came through our doors," Quaye said. "It's amazing we can do that work at that capacity, but it's also alarming that we see that many young people in a calendar year. Partnerships like the Minnesota Vikings Foundation make it doable for us."

Quaye took great joy in seeing the interaction between McCarthy and Rosenthal.

"People come here because they want to and because they feel seen and heard and cared about," Quaye said. "That's a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and for it to happen here in the parking lot, it's huge for him and a person like me who sees the ins and outs of these young people. To see a highlight like that happen here is phenomenal."

KFAN

LIVE SHOWS, INTERVIEWS, PODCASTS, AND MORE!

DOWNLOAD THE FREE iHeartRadio APP TODAY!

GAME ON, VIKINGS FANS

IT'S Miller TIME.

AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING LIQUOR STORES

SCAN* & ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO

WIN VIKINGS TICKETS* AND MORE

Keyword: VIKINGS

CELEBRATE RESPONSIBLY®

©2025 MILLER BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WI • BEER

*NO PURCHASE OR SCAN NECESSARY. Promotion begins on 7/31/25 at 12:00 PM CT and ends on 1/4/26 at 11:59 PM CT. Open only to legal residents of 50 U.S. (D.C.) excl. ME, 21+ years of age. Keyword "VIKINGS" open to MN & select WI zip codes. See Official Rules for details, including how to enter, odds, prize details & restrictions, at www.millerlitefootball.com. Void where prohibited. Tickets may be awarded as Venmo payment.